JUNE 56

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filmindia

Editor : BABURAO PATEL

Vol XXII JUNE, 1956 No 6

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THE MAGAZINE THAT SELLS ITSELF SELLS A THOUSAND THINGS!

Nine Years Of Nehru

Nine years of Nehru rule and we are in worse jungle than ever before.

To the man in the street freedom means nothing unless it is translated into four words: food, clothing, shelter and work. These four basic necessities of human existence provide the ultimate test of all our policies and politics. If the common man misses these four basic necessities of life, then all our policies and politics have failed, and so has our patriotism.

No one really believed that milk and honey would be flowing through the gutters of Ram Rajya though this is precisely what we were promised by our self-righteous Congressmen, most of whom are known to be unscrupulous liars and crooks. And we also know that the Congress legislatures are packed with such type of Congressmen who stab the people as soon as the dust of the elections settles down. Some of the Congress ministers were found guilty of fraud and corruption even in the primary act of their being elected as the representatives of the people. Normally a Finance Minister, in a Welfare State with three Asoka lions silently guarding the significant motto of "Satyamewa Jayate", is expected to be a man of unimpeachable character.

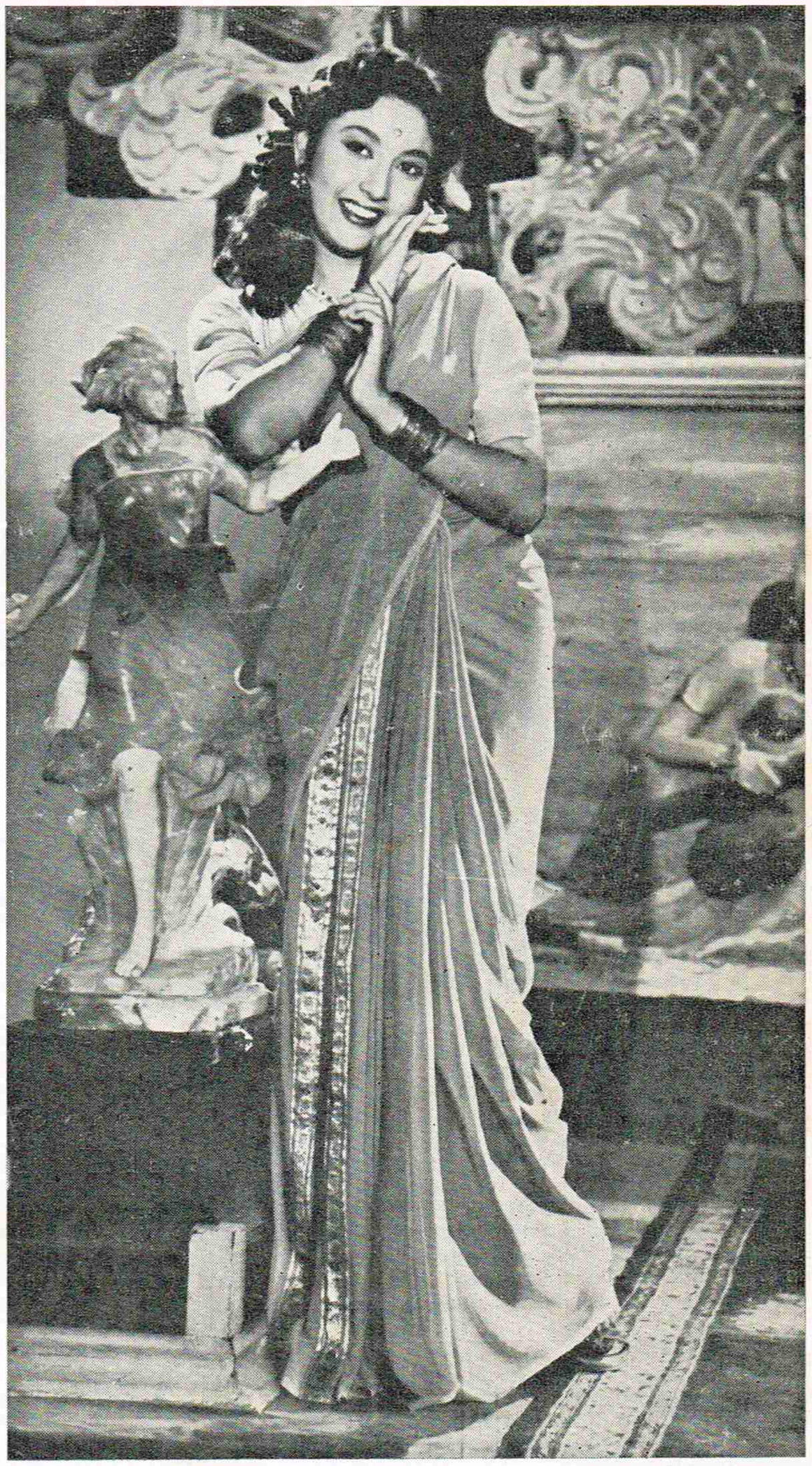
But Brijlal Biyani, the Finance Minister of Madhya Pradesh, and a Congressman of long standing, was found guilty of "corrupt practices of bribery and undue influence resorted to, by and on his behalf" and his election was declared void by the Election Tribunal. And so was Congressman Brij Sunder Sharma, Finance Minister of Rajasthan, found guilty of corrupt practices and was disqualified "from holding membership of Parliament and of legislature of every state for a period of six years and also from voting at any election for a similar period".

We wonder whether Pandit Nehru will also embrace this disgrace as his own as he often holds himself responsible for all the deeds and misdeeds—mostly misdeeds—of his white-robed Congressmen? He should do so seeing that he had given a solemn promise to the people that he would personally "screen" all Congress candidates before nominating them for the elections. If he had honestly done this work, how did these two—Lal and Sunder of Brij—get in and that too in the very responsible posts of Finance Ministers requiring exemplary honesty and character?

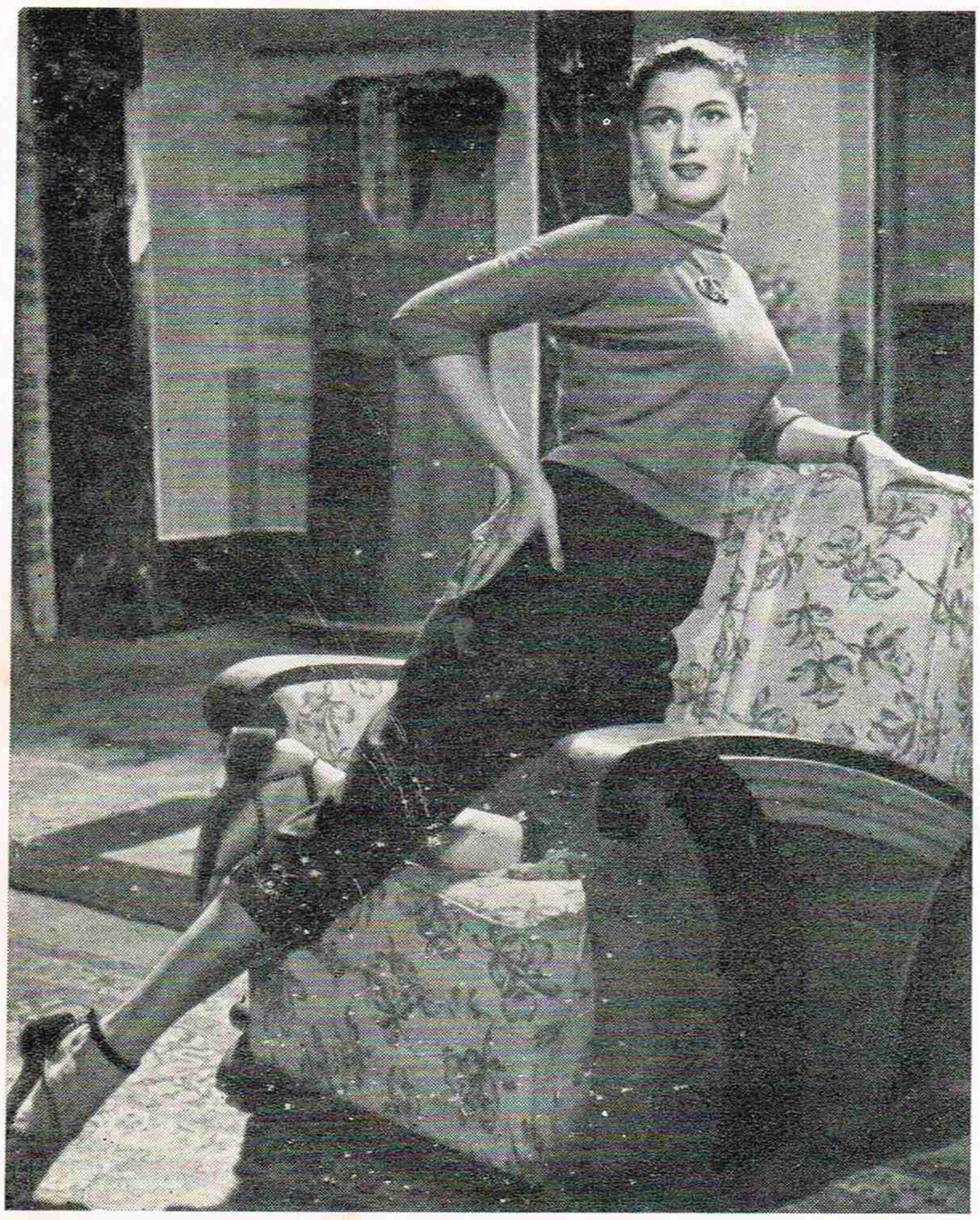
After this can Pandit Nehru honestly expect our people to trust Congress ministers and help them with men and money to build the nation?

Verily, no one believed that milk and honey would flow through the gutters of Ram Rajya because those who gave this promise were themselves known to be men of straw. And yet people thought that with freedom in the air and Gandhian Congressmen in the chair, we would be better off than before at least in the four dire necessities of life: food, clothing, shelter and work.

In this we have been sadly disillusioned. Food is more rare and expensive today than ever before. And so is cloth though we have a roaring textile industry. The Congressmen have spent crores on housing and yet over 80,000 people in Bombay alone, the premier city of India, live and sleep on pavements. So we know where the crores



When a woman has more length and less width she looks charming. And if she happens to be in youth and smile, she becomes almost killing. For, a smiling maiden quickly gets into the dreams of sleeping men making them see rainbows with closed eyes. Watch this pretty damsel, Mala Sinha, playing havoc with your heart in "Paisa Hi Paisa", a social theme directed by Mehrish for Mehboob Productions.



This is what the Mountbattens have left behind in India. Pandit Nehru should see these pyramids of Western culture planted on the breasts of our mothers and daughters and ask himself whether all our internationalism is to end in this. We quickly need a surgical law to chop off these pyramids and bandage the woman in our ancient sari, the symbol of grace and modesty. This is not the way our women should be emancipated. This is degradation—moral and physical. Neither is this art nor entertainment. Let us see what Shashikala does in this disgraceful costume in "Aakhri Kadam", a social theme produced by Saraswati Kala Mandir. Let us hope the Goddess Saraswati doesn't blush after seeing what is being done in her name.

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have gone. As regards work, we need a study of astronomical mathematics to count our unemployed.

Nehru cannot deny these negative achievements of his government during the last nine years in the four dire necessities of life. We don't need foreign experts and Indian statisticians to prove this. We see our people in the streets wandering aimlessly without work, with empty stomachs, half-covered bodies and vacant eyes searching for a shelter from sun and rain—millions and millions of them all over the country. They want to know when freedom will be spelt with those four words: food, clothing, shelter and work—the dire necessities?

But before we could get these necessities, we had some luxuries of freedom like Panchshila, international prestige, export trade, foreign experts, scientific laboratories, Five-Year Plans, etc. And then we adopted some shams of socialism like the nationalization of railways, airways, transport, insurance, banks, etc. But all these did not give our people food, clothing, shelter and work—the dire necessities. These shams and luxuries brought home a harvest of scandals in jeeps, tractors, ghee, prefabricated houses, tube-wells, fertilizers, dams, canals and a thousand other things.

And we are therefore in a worse jungle than ever before after nine years of Nehru's rule.

Nehru is a lawyer and politician. All our Congressmen are politicians and many of them are lawyers. Our people had therefore enough of law and politics during the first nine years of our freedom.

The 320-million Hindus, whose love and strength have made Nehru a monarch of India, had all their laws shuffled and reshuffled till Hindus started looking like Christians in marriage and Muslims in succession.

All the itch for making laws was spent on detraditionalizing Hindu women and desexualizing Hindu men while leaving the 40 million Muslims of the country severely alone out of sheer fear of the usual Islamic repercussions.

There was thus neither secularity nor democracy nor justice in our social legislation and all our new social laws with their streamlining of modern notions of social justice and civilization contributed to emphasize the one basic fact that our 40 million Muslims did not belong to this country and formed an alien race owing allegiance to an altogether different way of life and existence.

This was not what the secular-minded Congressmen intended to do but this is what their itch for law succeeded in doing because they dared not scratch the Muslims. We have thus one social law for 320 million Hindus and another for 40 million Muslims. The Hindu to whom this land belongs can be sent to jail if he marries a second wife but the Muslim can simultaneously throw four women into his bed as his wives and four more as his mistresses and then shake hands with Pandit Nehru as one more Maulana of Delhi.

That is the stage of social justice we have reached in the nine years of Nehru's rule. We have one law for Ram and another for Rehman.

The conscience that Nehru lost in his anti-Hindu legislation he tried to recover in building what he calls a socialistic pattern of society. Here again, because of Nehru's trembling tactics, our socialistic pattern of society is neither hay nor grass. Fear of Communism and impatience with democracy seem to have made Nehru an unwilling socialist. But he does not want to describe his experiment as socialism because that would mean flying the kite of the Praja Socialist Party and giving importance to his political rivals. He therefore beat the bewildered and uneducated Congressmen into christening his baby as a socialistic pattern of society which means a society that is neither democratic nor socialist nor even communist and yet an amalgam of all the three. Nehru always like combination products. He has many around

him to lend moral support to his socialistic pattern of society.

This experiment of socialistic pattern began with the State becoming the chief mourner at all rich deaths. By passing the Estate Duty Bill, even the most barren millionaire got an automatic heir in the State. Then followed amendments to the Constitution which described original good conscience as a mistake and lent a tyrant's strength and justification to the evil intentions of non-violent Congressmen in their experiment of pushing up the poor and pushing down the rich and themselves making profits in the process.

All rich ores in the private sector were grabbed one after another under the handy excuse of nationalization. The nation was divided into two sectors—public and private. Nehru found all angels in the public sector and discovered all criminals in the private one. The income-tax office was turned into a farm of rabid dogs and citizens were chased and bitten mercilessly. Crushing taxation, direct and indirect, was levied on the people. Even the poor did not escape the Gandhian Congressmen. Whatever they ate and wore was mercilessly taxed. Five-Year Plans—breeding farms of fraud and corruption—were foisted upon the people, accompanied by the chantings of Gandhian "welfare" mantras. Not one Congressman knew how to execute the Plan. In fact there was not even a plan for the first two years of the First Five-Year Plan. Crores and crores went down the drain without an extra grain of rice being grown anywhere in the whole country. On the other hand according to the latest (1955) Report of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (page 19) our rice crop went down from 27.8 million tons in 1953-54 to 24.2 million tons in 1954-55, i.e. a clean fall of 3.6 million tons of rice in a single year, which means 13% of the total annual production. If that is our tragedy in rice—our staple food—how grim must be our plight in other crops?

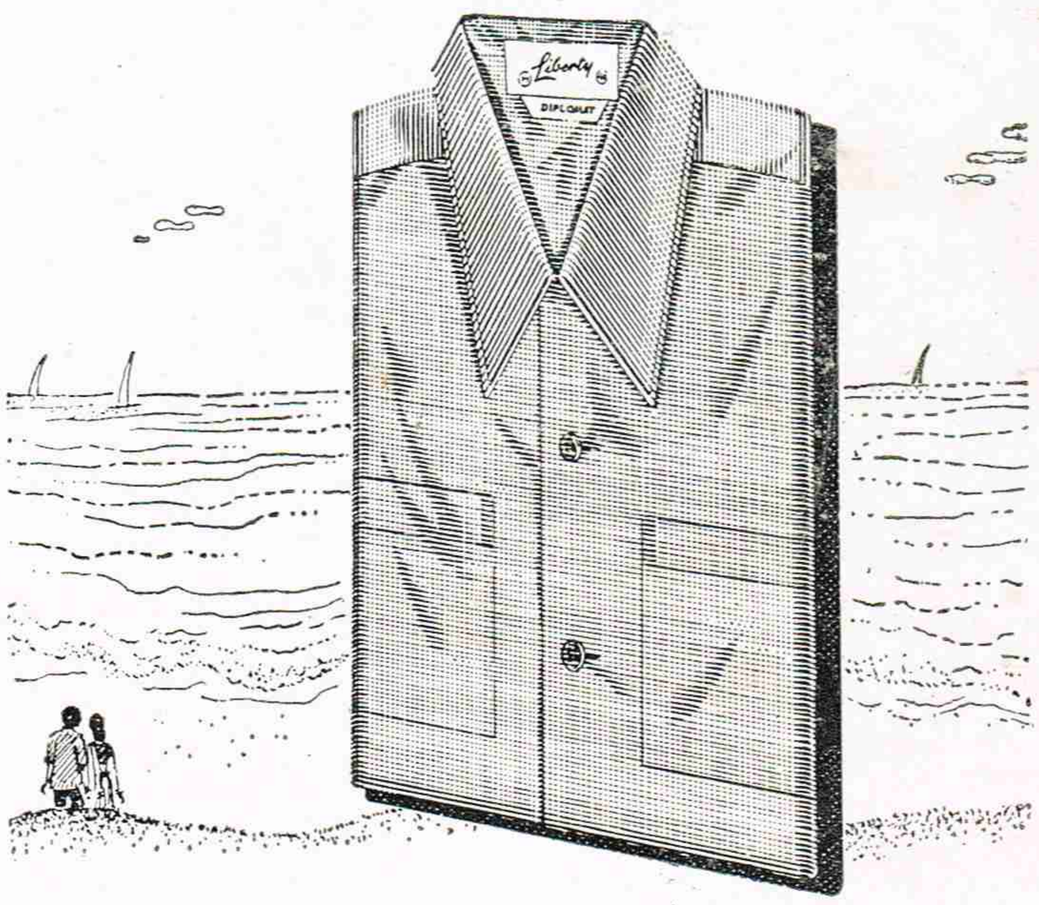
Though we lost in our annual rice production, yet we created a record in corruption. In a single sector of the Bhakra Nangal Dam alone, Congress engineers and contractors swallowed 10 crores of rupees. Count the numerous dams under construction at the moment and assess the harvest of corruption our Congressmen are going to bring home by the time the First Five-Year Plan is completed. Everything which these Gandhian Congressmen have touched during the last nine years has turned into a national scandal. And yet in all the scandals Nehru has loved to smell only sandal because they were scandals of his Congressmen.

Yes, we are in a worse jungle than ever before after nine years of Nehru's rule.

And all this without counting the big pending problems which cause bitterness and bloodshed—problems like Goa, Kashmir and linguistic provinces.

As against this perfectly black canvas of negative results, the Nehru government can claim two substantial achievements: internal peace in spite of the bleeding wounds of the refugees and the integration of the princely states. But though Nehru's government gets the credit for these, the man directly responsible for them was the late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. It was the presence of Sardar Patel which gave consolation to the bleeding and angry hearts of the refugees who believed that though Nehru would never have the courage to avenge their insults and injuries, they could always expect Sardar Patel to retaliate when necessary. This thought soothed the bleeding hearts and helped to maintain internal peace in a very explosive situation immediately after the wounds of partition.

The integration of our 566 princely states was a historic achievement to find a parallel of which we shall have to go back to the Aryan days when King Ramchandra



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Those "windows of the soul" seem to be fixed crooked. But perhaps the design is crooked. When women look that way, they are setting the trap for the growling brute. Padmini is now old enough to sort out her designs and surprise us by revealing them to us one by one in "Payal", a romance of song and dance.

brought the whole of India under the Aryan rule. And though U.N. Dhebar, the Congress President, now flatters Nehru by saying that even the police action in Hyderabad was taken by Nehru, everyone in India knows that the integration of Hyderabad and the other states was personally done by Sardar Patel and no one else.

Bar these two beacons the jungle of Nehru's rule was never lighted though we found the jungle noisy and awake throughout.

Our misfortune, as we have said many times before, begins and ends with Nehru, the prize schizophrenic of India. His mind is a crucible of East and West, of art and science, of democracy and totalitarianism and of many contradictory qualities. It is a mind that is a beautiful mess of tyranny and benevolence. There is no doubt at all about Nehru's sincerity. Our quarrel is with his method and courage or rather lack of them.

Like Rajaji we don't consider Nehru to be merely a gift of God. We consider him to be a god. A man who enjoys the love of 360 million people in spite of Himalayan mistakes cannot be less. But a god must have a god's wisdom, a god's method and a god's courage. And above all a god must inspire people. Nehru does not.

Why?

Because nine years ago when he first wore the crown Nehru began building the nation at the wrong end. He did not realize—and still does not—that it is the people that make a nation and not so many million tons of rice, wheat, gur, sugar, cement, steel, etc. He did not realize that it is the essential philosophy of life that builds a nation and not a chain of scientific laboratories nor a group of fertilizer factories. He described the factories as the new temples of the people and asked them to worship the machinery inside as their god. And he ran away from our temples the repositories of our people's faith and worship through ages—the very faith and worship which inspire people to call Nehru a god and love and worship him.

In his impatient race with Communism, Nehru forgot the head, the glory of man, and concentrated on the stomach, his gutter. He launched the Five-Year Plan and with it a race with Communism to reduce the ancient Indian to the level of a hungry brute with only a body and a stomach and nothing more.

Nehru missed the man—the Indian—that has survived thousands of years in the cradle of a single faith through storms and starvations and through jolts and quakes of cruel history. He also forgot that the population of 320 million of these people (we dare not risk counting 40 million Muslims) gave India the importance of being not only an ancient nation but a great one. Nehru forgets that a nation is built by the heart and character of its people and not by its stocks of necessities and luxuries of life. Britain in spite of being poorer in worldly goods is a greater nation than America, because still the man in Britain has a better heart and character than the man in America.

Nehru counted the factories, the railway wagons and other tangible assets left behind by the British but he completely lost sight of the human element in planning his dream of a great nation. Result: no great nation but only a tall score of scandals and disappointments.

320 million human beings nursed in the cradle of a lofty, non-violent and liberal religion is a terrific man-power which can be used to build any new world, as beautiful as human imagination can paint or conceive. But Nehru did not care for this man-power except as audience for his unending lectures and as incense at the altar of his hero-worship. He ran around with bread and manure, with bulbs and coaches and with peace and Panchshila burying this huge man-power under an unending avalanche of high-sounding words.

Man, the father of history, has stalked the world in many guises through the ages and many a disguise was thrust on us as slaves. On August 15, 1947, when the British took their boot away from our shores, they still left behind a footprint on our soil—a footprint at once

ugly and repulsive and revolting against an ancient culture and traditions.

In two hundred years the British rulers dragged our city women out of their homes and put them on the ballroom floors of the clubs in the arms of strangers. They made Union Jacks out of our saris and put our women into slacks and scanty costumes. They poured wine down the throats of our women and gave their feet a new itch for the rumbas and sambas of the West. They encouraged new notions of women's rights and made our women forget their ancient duties. In short they turned the woman of India—an ancient trinity of the daughter, the wife and the mother—into a common coquettish egg-laying fowl.

Nor did our well-bred city man escape this degenerating process of Westernization. The British put him into well-creased trousers and in doing so hid his stomach below the dining table and put his food at chest level. They polished his nails and paralyzed his fingers and then gave him a spoon, a knife and a fork to eat his meals. They taught him to drink, dance and gamble and wait upon women like a butler in the drawing room and like a sponger in the bedroom. And they called these good manners. So completely did the British emasculate the well-to-do Indian that even when he saw another man in his wife's bed, he sat out and smoked complacently sipping a gin and soda. Not satisfied with introducing numerous perversions in good Indian homes, the British created a community of their adulterous products by illicit intercourse with the untouchables of the country, and left behind a degrading memento of their colonial vices.

The middle classes whom they could not pervert in the clubs and drawing rooms of Western fashion, they poisoned with British education, a rare decoction of national virtues and colonial vices. To the officers, clerks and other workers, the British provided an ever-receding mirage of plenty and prosperity through the perfect and beautiful words of the English language. The white collar workers hugged the rainbow of imperial recognition but in doing so bent lower before their white lords. Thus the largest army of toilers and builders of British imperialism in India came from the middle classes to lose its purpose and identity completely under the British boot.

The Indian villager was severely left alone in so far as the polish of the Western civilization was concerned. To him was given the village grogshop and the licensed liquor to forget the primitive tragedies and the imperial tyrannies of his life.

This was the chaos of culture we inherited on August 15, 1947. It was at once hybrid, illegitimate, indifferent and neglected. Only in the pattern of our poverty and sufferings was there some cultural consistency left. The rest was mercilessly poisoned. The debased humanity at the top of our social structure needed urgent repair to restore its original cultural integrity and correct outlook on our new national life. Nehru should have tackled this problem first because for all his other nation-building activities he needed the right man-power first. That he hasn't got the right man-power today in a crowded country of 360 million people is evident from the amount of fraud and corruption prevalent in the country.

What we need is a serious cultural revival and a cultural integration of a nation. By cultural revival we do not mean an increase in bow-legged dancing women or painted pantomimes we so often see in our newly established "cultural" centres. That is cultural debauchery by sex-starved spinsters and desexualised young men.

Cultural integration must be a comprehensive movement which must take notice of our serious problems of communalism, casteism, provincialism and linguistic fanaticism. It has to consider very seriously the sulking, self-

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If eyes can kill, Nimmi is in a mood to kill a hundred. A few more Pathan belles with those eyes and Pakistan cannot resist the demand for Pakhtoonistan. Nimmi and Kishore Kumar bring thrilling romance to the screen in "Bhai Bhai", the AVM entertainer which has taken the nation by storm.

imposed isolation of 40 million Muslims who unnecessarily continue to consider themselves as new martyrs of Karbala and look towards Pakistan with eyes of hope and prayer and in doing so impregnate the future of this country with fear and treachery. Winning the Muslims and making them Indians will in fact be the biggest headache of any cultural movement launched in this country. For, the Muslims won't be won easily and if won they won't be won permanently. And yet we must keep trying the impossible with hope and prayer in our hearts because 40 million Muslims cannot be thrown out of a secular state nor can they be neglected in a country that wants to progress and prosper and set an example of democracy to the rest of the world.

We have no space for all our thoughts on this important national problem but we give below some suggestions on which a separate, well-financed Ministry of Culture can be maintained with great benefit to our people and nation.

That we need an effective Ministry of Culture for this work is evident. To make it really effective it must be comprehensive. To make it comprehensive we must close down the two stupid ministries of education and information which we are maintaining today. These ministries have proved their utter uselessness and in spite of all the crores of rupees they have wasted in the last nine years, illiteracy in India is still 82.1 per cent, second highest in the world.

The new Ministry of Culture must have strict cultural control, within, of course, democratic definition, on all human sound and expression—whether printed, broadcast, whispered, taught or in any other manner conveyed. Both the ministries, of education and information, must therefore merge into a composite Ministry of Culture if for no other purpose, at least to avoid the shameful spectacle of a disgraceful rivalry seen these days between Maulana's minions and Keskar's cuckoos.

The work of our new Ministry of Culture must begin at the vile roots in the past, way back in the eighth century, when Mahomed Ibn Qasim, the first Arab invader, rushed into India with a handful of 6000 bloodthirsty Arabs, killed Dahir, the Aryan king of Sind, looted and plundered his kingdom and kidnapped and raped women and converted thousands to Islam. The history of India for several centuries after this event, as written by English historians, is a glowing account of the conquests of Muslim invaders and a shameful record of Hindu defeats and mortifications. The Ghoris, the Khiljis, the Tughlaks and the Moghuls are dyed in glorious hues of conquering heroes by political-minded English historians without a kind thought or word for the defensive valour of the Indians of those days.

It was the English historian who easily picked up the Moghul description of Indians of those days as Hindus and rubbed in and emphasised the word "Hindu" so much that it soon created two communities—the Hindu and the Muslim—in India and a permanent wall between them. Before the Moghuls invaded India the word "Hindu" did

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not even exist. This history with a political bias and purpose was taught in India for nearly a hundred and fifty years in what the British described as secular schools with Hindu and Muslim students rubbing shoulders as comrades in the same classrooms. It made the Hindu boys blush with shame and the Muslim boys glow with pride and in this blush of the conquered and the glow of the conqueror were permanently sown the seeds of eternal Hindu-Muslim conflict.

These books of history are like the symbolic Christian crucifix, hanging on all Christian churches and silently screaming to the Christian children the everlasting damnation of all Jews, thus preaching from a church built for a religion of love the eternal hatred of a race for the crime of an individual.

This is precisely what the English-written history books of India do. They sow hatred in children at an age when they absorb love and hatred without being conscious of the effects of either. These dangerous books of history ought to have been scrapped nine years ago and new ones, giving a more balanced view of history, written. But a ministry of education headed by a Muslim minister and staffed by Muslim secretaries would naturally not be interested in re-writing books of history and removing milestones of their own racial pride and conquests painted in loud and glaring colours.

Thus through nine years of Nehru's rule, our history has remained the same and the old poison of racial superiority continues to be instilled into the minds of our secular children. If what we say is difficult to believe, let those that rule us today visit Pakistan and hear the songs of Ghori and Ghazni which Pakistanis sing today as national anthems of hatred towards India. The seeds for these songs were sown in the schoolrooms of undivided India. This is the first job for our new Ministry of Culture.

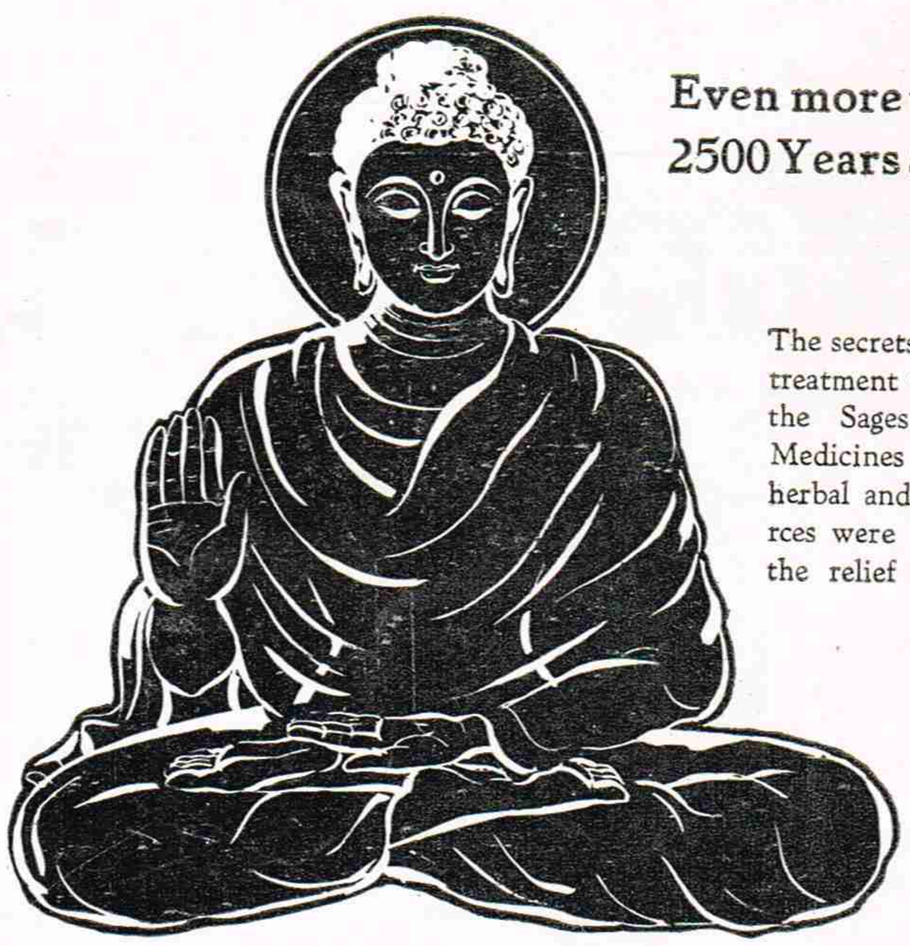
Widespread corruption in our administrative machinery has given such a bad taste to our freedom that not one man feels enthused over our new nationalism. Without the right pride in one's country and traditions no people can ever progress or prosper. A number of sadistic moral measures, unpopular social laws and punitive taxation imposed by the ruling clique of Congressmen have created a big gulf between the people and their government and made the people resentful and uncooperative.

This gulf must be bridged immediately and our people reclaimed by scrapping straightaway those reformative laws which unnecessarily create bad blood between the people and the goverment and undermine all the prospects of making our Five-Year Plans successful. Look at the amount of resentment caused in Bombay by the pride and self-righteousness of Morarji Desai who pursues his prohibition policy in the face of its absolute failure and continues to haunt and irritate people? Can a people thus harassed ever lend a hand in any welfare scheme put up by Morarji Desai? What is true of Bombay and prohibition is true of other provinces and other sadistic laws — be they moral, social or economical.

Too many laws make too many criminals and we feel that the new Ministry of Culture should put all its emphasis on the service of the people by various ways and persuasions rather than on any more laws.

Let us imagine three symbolic institutions like Gandhi Ashram, Jawahar Youth Camp and Patel Pathshala!

In the Gandhi Ashram we can give our young and old instruction in the universal religion of humanity — what the ancient Aryans called the Sanatan Dharma. The English word "religion" is a poor translation of the Sanskrit word "dharma". The ancients described "dharma" as यतोऽभ्युदयनिःश्रेयससिद्धिः स धर्मः। Freely translated it means a code of human behaviour which teaches a man the way to attain all round earthly success and spiritual salvation through right action. As the basic teachings of all religions are the same, we can teach in



Even more than 2500 Years ago..

The secrets of Ayurvedic treatment were known to the Sages of India. Medicines prepared from herbal and mineral resources were prescribed for the relief of mankind.

To-Day.....

The same foot-prints of the ancient Sages are being strictly followed by Dabur (Dr. S. K. Burman) Private Ltd. the oldest and reputed Ayurvedic medicine manufacturers of India, to bring relief to the suffering mankind.

DABUR (Dr. S. K. Burman) Private Ltd., Cal-29.

these Ashrams the universality of love and humanity — the Wisdom Religion as the theosophists would call it. And once we make humanity a theme of teaching, nursing, first-aid and other humane expressions of love and service can be taught along with moral instruction. It is in this Ashram that we must introduce to youths our two great epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, and our immortal devotional literature enriched by saints like Tulsidas, Surdas, Ramdas, Kabir, Nanak, Gaurang, Mirabai and others. The general training in this Ashram, compulsory to all communities in India necessary for passing the usual University examinations, should be so arranged as to provide a good foundation of a humane religion so necessary for a free citizen of an ancient country.

While the Gandhi Ashram will look after the soul and spirit of man, the Jawahar Youth Camp should be planned to look after the physical expression of man — his health, sports, athletics, handiwork, manual skill, little trades, scientific pursuits, rifle training, etc. Here again the training must be simultaneous and compulsory for every person whatever his community or religion.

In the Patel Pathshala named after Sardar Patel to look after the intellectual development of man, we must give efficient political and administrative training to our administrative officers at all levels. It is here that our different philosophies like the Nyaya, Veisheshik, Sankhya, the Mimamsas, etc., the Arthashashtra and the Ganarajyas can be taught with great benefit.

Imagine two thousand of these three-in one institutions functioning in India in 2000 carefully selected centres in India! Is it a dream? It is, but a beautiful one. Nehru can make it come true if he throws off the 40 million Muslims sitting on his chest.

Take the field of sport! The British left behind cricket the game that requires an expensive equipment not to mention flannel trousers and white shoes. Whatever the virtues of the game, the trousers and the shoes place the game beyond the reach of millions of our people. Cricket can never be our national game because millions and millions of our people don't have the means to play it. But we need a national game to enthuse and rally our people. And we need a game which won't cost much and can be played even by our Naga sadhus without clothes. Football can be our national game. The ball costs so little and the game teaches people to kick — an art we badly need to learn after centuries of religious non-violence. The goodwill and comradery which a national game like football creates should be seen to be believed in England, the home of sport.

To achieve cultural integration we need to nationalize some of our festivals and holidays. We need not bother about religious festivals in a secular state but we can certainly nationalize some seasonal festivals like the Holi, the Diwali, the Dussera, etc. and commemorative days like the birthday of Buddha, Mahommed, Nanak, Krishna and Christ. These can be well-planned State festivals in which the highest and the lowest in the land can be encouraged to take part.

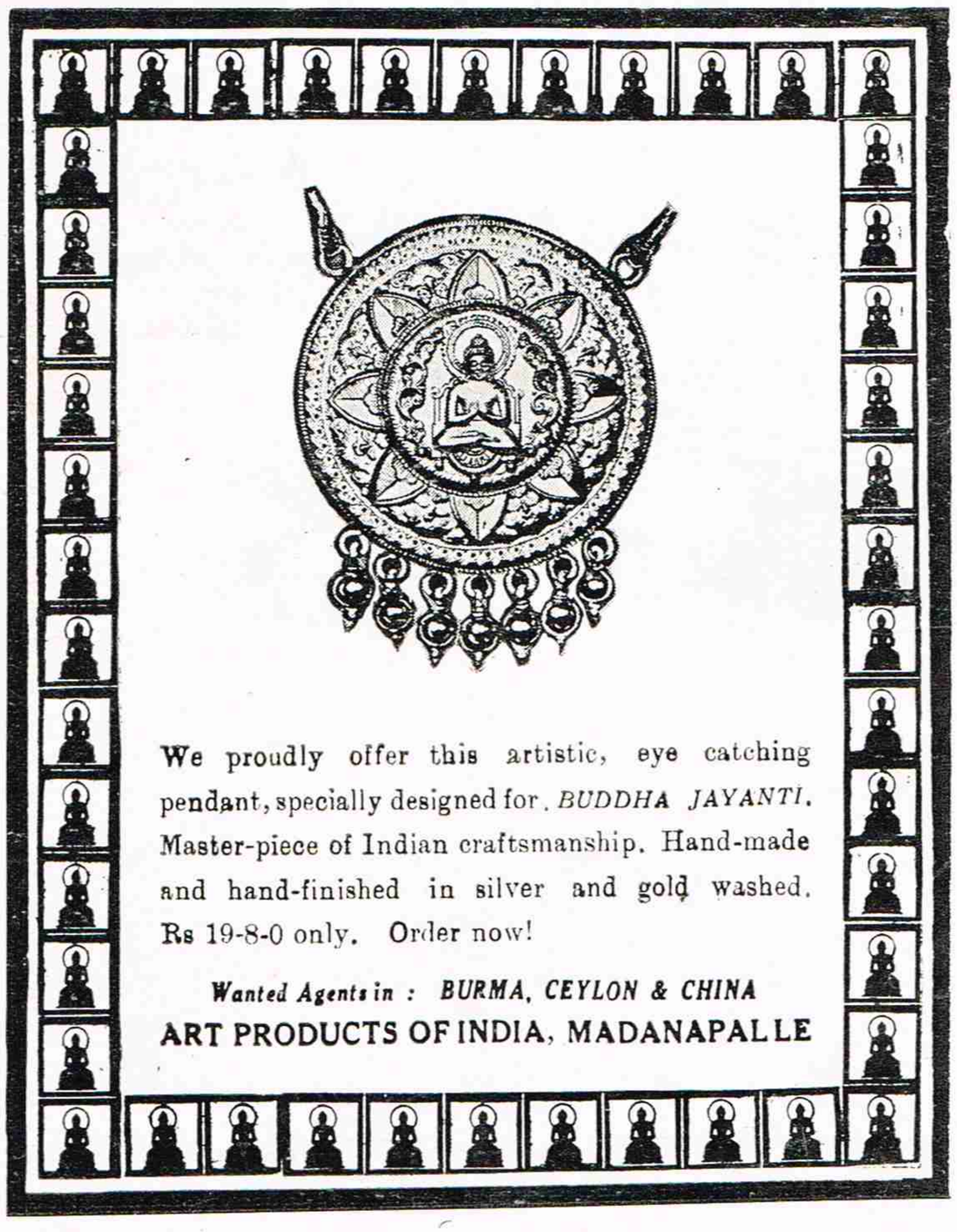
The patterns of cultural integration can be endless and if our rulers do establish a Ministry of Culture under a man who is in earnest, only a generation is needed to complete the cultural regeneration of our people and make them proud and great citizens of an ancient country.

Whether Nehru agrees to do this or not, that is where we shall have to begin ultimately if ever we are to be a great people. What needs a complete overhaul in our country first is the man — the man that lost his character through centuries of slavery. We must reclaim that man first before we build a house for him to live.

The only way Nehru can leave his own dent on history is by reclaiming the man in every Indian by building up his ancient character and not by building only dams and canals for producing millions of tons of rice and wheat. Stalin who did that for thirty years is today a cold corpse of Soviet history.

Man is the measure of all things and in what he does to others he reveals his own measure. Let Nehru remember that. The man Nehru will be measured in history by what he did to other men and not by the quantity of fertilisers he produced.

"Girnar" Baburao Patel.
14-5-1956.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ART PRODUCTS OF INDIA, MADANAPALLE

(In this section, the editor himself replies to queries from the readers. As thousands of letters are received every month—some anxious and several frivolous—it is neither possible nor convenient to attend to all. Selected letters are usually treated in an informative and humorous strain and no offence is meant to anyone.)

M. S. VISVANATHAN (Poona)

Why does not Feroze Gandhi become some minister?

He has just found his tongue, he will soon find his feet. No relation of Nehru is going to remain unemployed with over 5000 crores of rupees to waste in the next 5 years.

When a woman cocks an eye and looks that way, she is on a dangerous mission. Unless the "rat" escapes quickly, he will soon find himself under a warm and designing paw. And it is not a bed of roses there. Meet Ameeta, the new flame of our silent sufferers, in "Shirin Farhad", an old wine rebottled by Aspi.

If goats had two legs?

The price of mutton would have been double. All two-legged things are expensive.

P. N. Arora is often surrounded by beauties?

He runs a school for adolescent actresses where they are taught to lay their "eggs" and hatch them.

What is the tragedy of Dr. Ambedkar?

He ate books like a cockroach and not like a man with the result that education never taught him to love others. Hatred ruled his entire life.

What work has Keskar done so far?

Signed 48 pay receipts and 480 travelling vouchers.

Khatau voiles are very popular?

They have reached Queen Elizabeth of England.

Morarji cuts his own hair. Nehruji?

He trims Maulana's beard.

What do orphanages remind you of?

Little lights that took all the light from the lamps that lighted them.

What is the advantage of marrying a widow?

There is no traffic jam.

What does Kashmir export?

Cash savings of the political goondas.

When do prostitutes become widows?

When time marries them and turns the wedding into a long interval.

If film stars join the army?

War will become a farce.

What do nudists' colonies conceal?

Clothes which lend sin to the human skin.

HERE IS JACQUES FATH'S NEW CREATION.— COME BACK TO CIVILIZATION, MY DEAR
DON'T TEMPT ME WITH SIN, ANTONIO. THE SUN IS PURIFYING ME
NUDISTS' COLONY

What is illegal in Russia?

Thinking is banned by law.

Is Morarji one in a million?

Oh, no, every third man in Bulsar is a Morarji.

How is your appetite these days, sir?

The appetite has improved, sir, but the food has become too expensive.

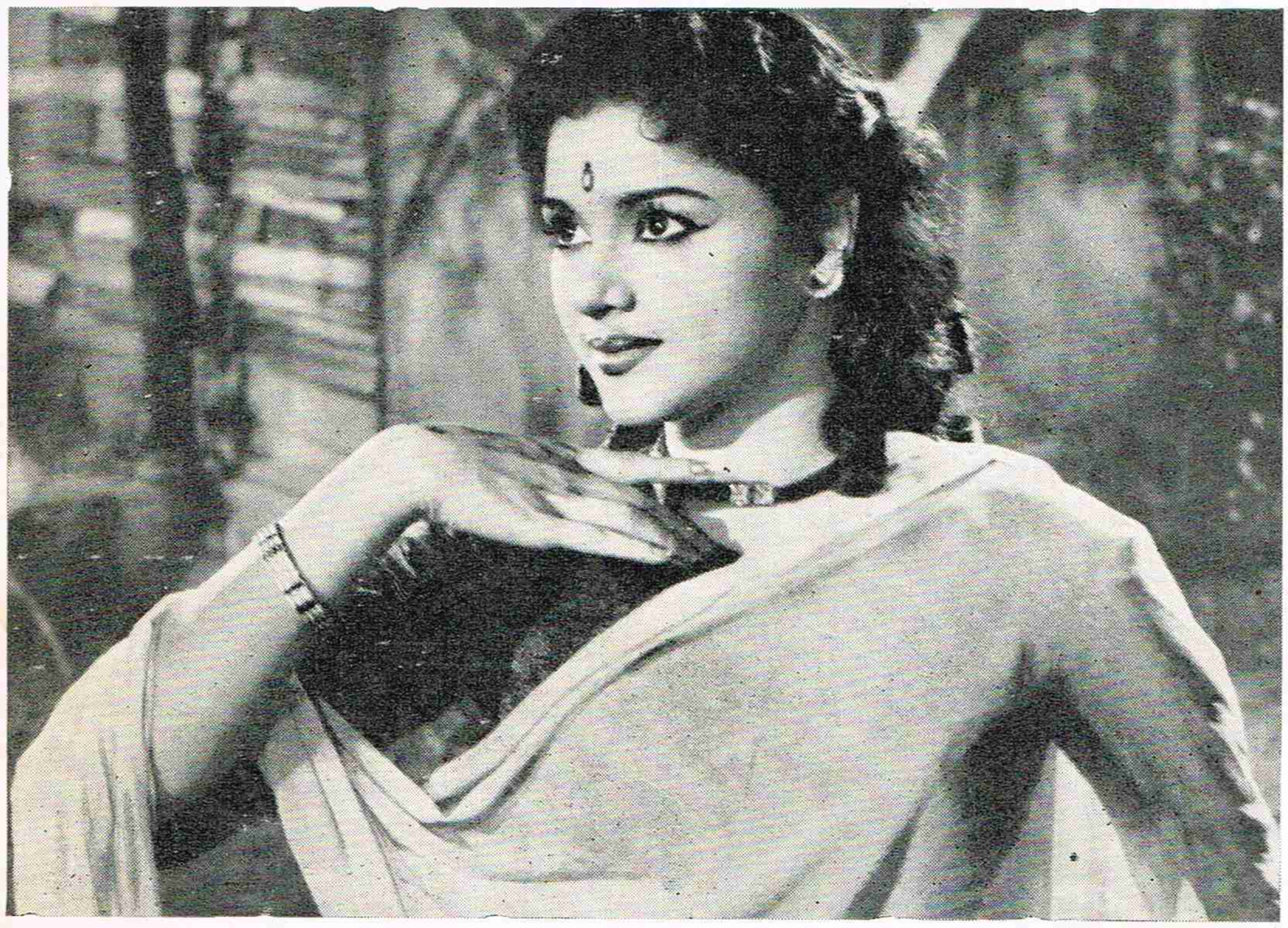
To acknowledge gratitude a dog wags its tail. What does man do?

He turns his finger into a proctoscope and searches for your piles.

Kamini Kaushal has lost all her charm now?

From a mother of three children you must expect a different charm.

What happened to D. P. Mishra?



Some women don't have eyes but two moons fixed on their face—at once soothing and hypnotizing. Padmini doesn't have to sing a lullaby. Her eyes can send a man to the dreamland without a whisper in his ears. Meet this soothing beauty in "Payal", a social romance produced by Madras Talkies and released by AVM.

He must wait till Nehru leaves the scene.

Is Kripalani still in the race?

Sucheta has not divorced him yet.

No 'Samyukta Hindustan'?

Only under a foreign rule. You will have to wait till the Mongolians take over.

Of what use are cowards in battlefields?

They show you the way and the speed of running away when the battle is lost.

Is Nehru good at figures?

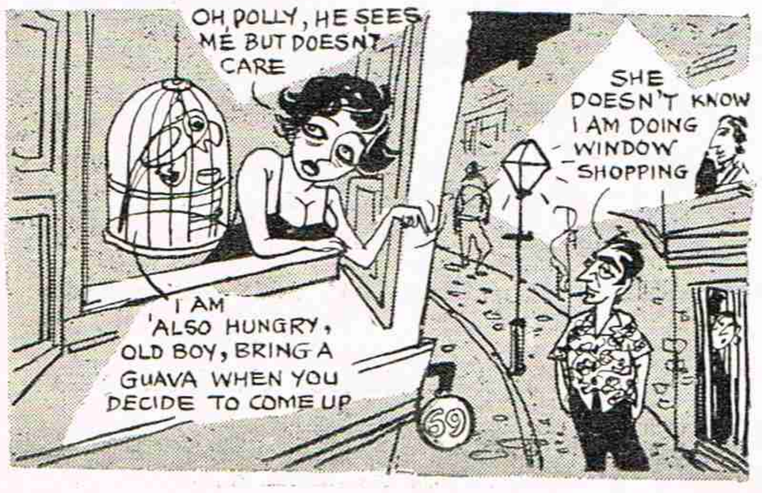
No. The women round him are not worth a second look.

Pakistan is self-sufficient in all fields?

No. West Pakistan hasn't enough Hindus for slaughter and no Sikhs at all.

When does a prostitute hate her profession?

When food stands in the street and merely stares while hunger stalks the home.


OH POLLY, HE SEES ME BUT DOESN'T CARE
I AM 'ALSO HUNGRY, OLD BOY, BRING A GUAVA WHEN YOU DECIDE TO COME UP
SHE DOESN'T KNOW I AM DOING WINDOW SHOPPING
69

What interest do you get on your savings?

At the moment I am paying interest on the savings of my moneylender.. Till he goes out I have no chance.

Does travel help a man in life?

Yes, Dr. Keskar opened a bank account.

Are widows like burnt wicks?

Some of them are not even lighted.

When does an actress go insolvent?

When both the face and the falsies fail.

Of what use are his millions to Dalmia?

We'll soon know. His millions are now on trial.

When is Keskar applauded?

He has no planets for applause.

Has the distance between India and Russia lessened?

With Mikoyan visiting Pakistan?

Prime Ministers of other nations don't talk much?

They have plenty of work to do and they approach it with sincerity.

HARILAL (Fiji)

Come to Fiji. The palms of these beautiful islands are eager to welcome you.

Palms only! We have cocoanuts hanging from our palms. Improve your offer, Hiralal.

G. C. AGARWAL (Ajmer)

Tell me something interesting about Lady Rama Rau?

Never search for female archaeology in a mother's face.

Can Mahavir Tyagi handle a rifle?

Tyagi is a very modest man. He never handles anything openly.

How can Dr. Keskar become very, very popular?

He should do what the people want. Isn't he a people's minister?

Why are Muslims fond of the cow?

That is meat with sex.

E. V. CHHAPWALEY (Uran)

Is Morarji Desai a hero-worshipper?

Yes, but he finds his hero in his mirror.

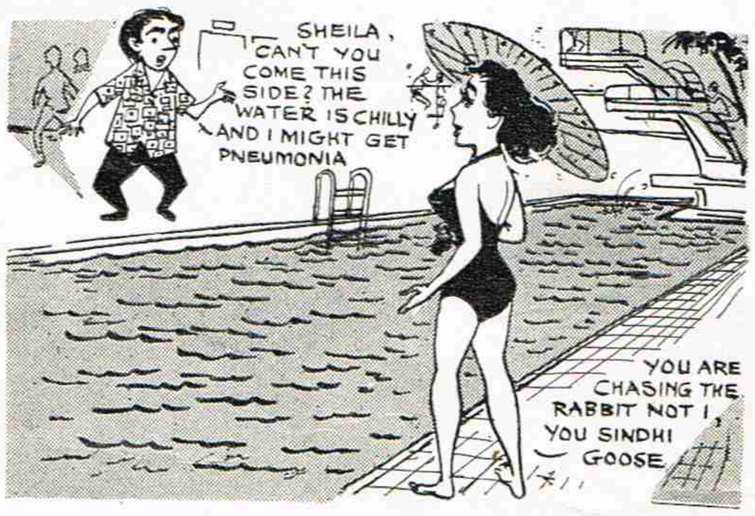
Will Keskar remain a bachelor for ever?

He has acquired some beauty now—the savings from his big salary. Some poor girl might need the money for her poor relations and she might stretch out her hand for it with blindfold eyes.

JAGDISH JAIN (Delhi)

What is the use of dreams?

They can be used as electric rabbits for reaching the winning posts of life.


SHEILA, CAN'T YOU COME THIS SIDE? THE WATER IS CHILLY AND I MIGHT GET PNEUMONIA
YOU ARE CHASING THE RABBIT NOT I, YOU SINDHI GOOSE

Do breasts speak?

They squeak when the falsies shift.

Say something about Vinita Butt?

More useful in a home than in a studio.

What do girls learn in colleges these days?

Birth-control with sex-control.

Was Adam a poet too?

A sole monopolist like Adam doesn't have to waste his breath on poetry. Poetry begins when there are less women and more men.

What happens when Jayshree smiles?

Jayshree's smile is no longer a rainbow of the screen. She is back again where she started.

Shall we ever have a better Government than Pandit Nehru's Government?

A government of two or more men is always better than a one-man government.

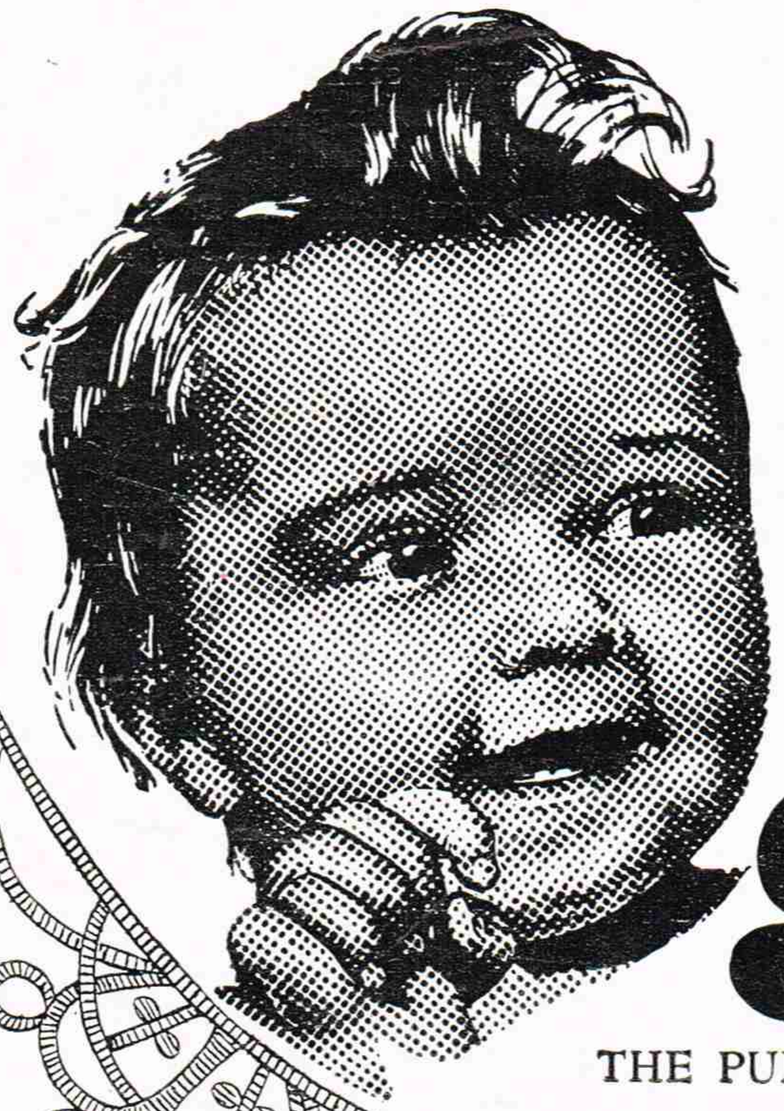
What is Morarji Desai's view of the world?

Morarji looks at the world from many buildings — one of them being Gupta Mahal. Being power-crazy I think he likes the view from the new Sachivalaya most.

She was such a worried mother! It was her first baby—and he was so unhappy—crying all the time—hardly gaining in weight.

One day, she asked advice from a friend who had a happy, healthy baby! Incredible that he should be the same age as her poor child!

"I give my baby Glaxo" said the friend. "Glaxo is pure, nourishing milk-food to which Vitamin D has been added to build strong bones and teeth; and iron to enrich the blood".



That very day the mother bought 'Glaxo'. Look at him now. He's wonderfully happy! Sleeps so well! Gains steadily in weight—thanks to 'Glaxo'.

★

For a free copy of The Glaxo Baby Book send 6 annas in stamps (to cover postage) to 'Glaxo', Dept. No. G, Worli, Bombay 18.

Glaxo

THE PUREST MILK-FOOD FOR BABIES

G. 8

Which is a better place for prostitutes, Delhi or New Delhi?

In New Delhi they face too much competition from the so-called society butterflies.

If an air hostess becomes pregnant?

The pilot gets applause for a successful belly-landing.

Can you name one achievement of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur till now?

She has dissolved Nehru in her tears.

Are people happy in new China?

The unhappy ones are rushed to heaven.

Has Raj Kapoor ever slapped Nargis?

Love is war and war has its armament.

Is the Naaz Cinema of Bombay equipped with Bauer-Klangfilm?

Yes, the owner of the cinema is himself an engineering man and always wants the world's best equipment.

What is Lucknow famous for?

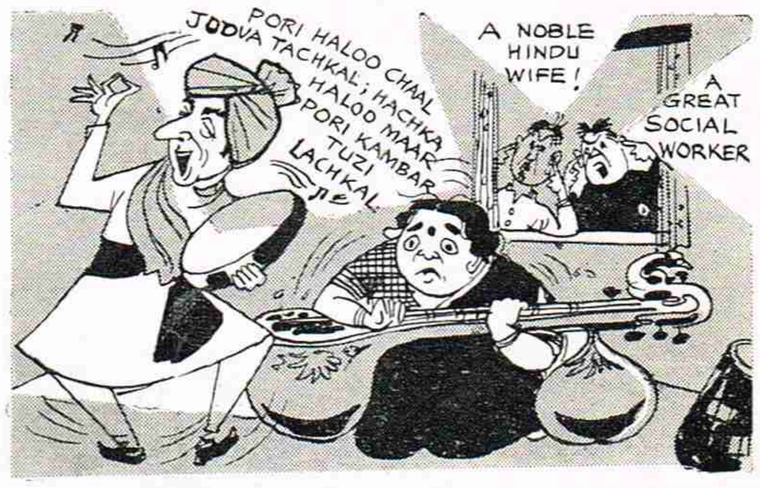
Idle women and busy boys.

What is sadism?

Throwing neo-converts like Krishna Menon and Chintu Deshmukh in the face of old Congressmen.

Does Durgabai Deshmukh know swimming?

At her age swimming has no photographic value. But she does play the "Veena" to drown Chintu's crowing and save the neighbours.



How do prostitutes carry the weight of pregnancy?

Pregnancy in a prostitute is like a bank moratorium. No cheques cashed.

MRS. PRAKASH (New Delhi)

What is Bharat Sewak Samaj?

Another Congress humbug for wasting public funds. Its latest spiritual branch is Sadhu Sewak Samaj.

What sort of love existed between Radha and Lord Krishna?

I don't believe in love without a bed. Nor did Krishna. Adultery was not a crime in those days.

Do you believe that in the Vedic period many diseases were cured by merely chanting certain mantras?

Yes, sound can move the elements. Even in the present time hypnotism cures many diseases.

Do you think that Pandit Mukhram Sharma is an original writer?

Yes, he uses his own pen and fingers. But all originality ends there.

Don't you think most of our comedians overact?

We have no comedians. We have only funny idiots.

What sort of a world is this film world of yours?

It is a bad world of good people. Only those who live in it know the secret of this paradox.

First of April seems to have lost its importance in India?

Doesn't the Government budgeting year still begin on the Fool's Day?

What does an Anglo-Indian girl inherit from her parents?

Nothing except a good appetite.

For what quality of his was Prithviraj Kapoor taken in the Rajya Sabha?

He is photogenic. He makes a good

THE TASTE OF YOUR TONGUE IS PACKED IN THIS BOTTLE

DILIP KUMAR
TABLE TASTIES

ROYAL CHUTNEY (SWEET)
The delight of Moghul Emperors now within reach of all

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MANGO PICKLE (HOT)
The pride of Maharashtra, superb in taste and flavour

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LIME PICKLE (HOT)
A universal appetizer and digestive of rare quality

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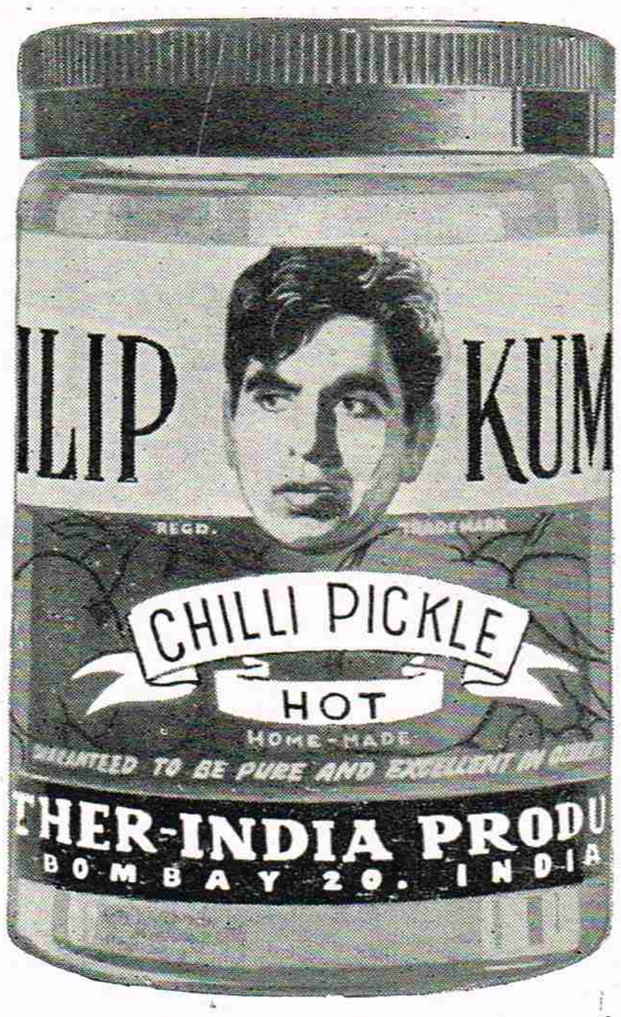
CHILLI PICKLE (HOT)
Gives an extra edge to the tongue with a never-to-be-forgotten flavour



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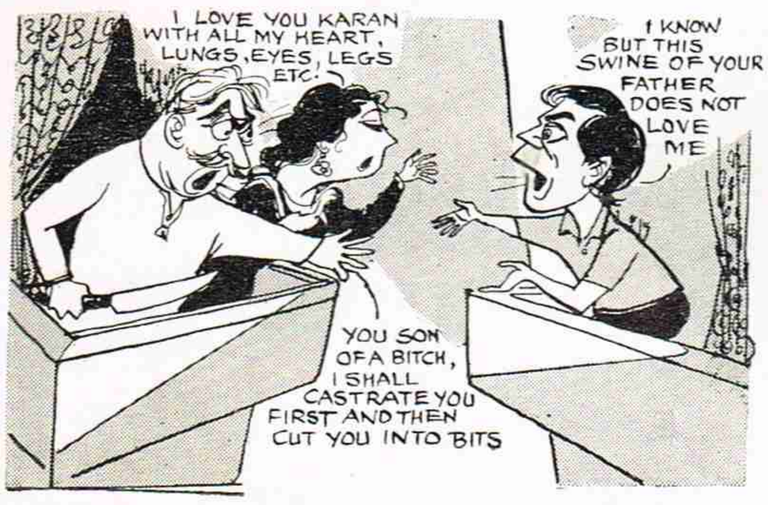
travelling salesman for Indian culture as long as he keeps his big mouth shut.

In Punjab there have been many lovers and beloveds: Heer and Ranjha, Sethi and Murad, Sassi and Punnu, Sahiban and Mirza. Why not in other states also?

In the other states people love and make sacrifices quietly. Their love has culture and modesty. In the Punjab lovers sit on compound walls like cats in heat and wake up the whole town with their screams and scratches till some writer frames their passion in prose or poetry.


I LOVE YOU KARAN WITH ALL MY HEART, LUNGS, EYES, LEGS ETC.
I KNOW BUT THIS SWINE OF YOUR FATHER DOES NOT LOVE ME
YOU SON OF A BITCH, I SHALL CASTRATE YOU FIRST AND THEN CUT YOU INTO BITS

NARAYAN R. SANT (Kampala)

After 15 years of married life my wife tells me, "I did not love you on the day of our marriage and do not propose to love you until I am alive." What am I to do with such a wife?

An honest wife! Stick to her. She will give you good service for another 15 years. By the way, do you know that there is not much in men to love?

MISS RUBY SAKSENA (Pilibhit)

I want to make pen friends. Please help me.

I won't. Improve your handwriting and I'll write you a fine love letter.

Who will replace Mr. Krishna Menon?

We have got a mine of Menons — one blacker than the other.

T. SATYANARAYANA RAO (Kurnool)

I want to send a wedding present to Miss Yashodhara Kathju. What kind of a present do you suggest?

Send her the Andhra pickle and give her some sympathetic burning during her honeymoon.

RAJ A. CHHUGANI (Jullundur)

Poverty has made me inquisitive?

Remain poor and inquisitive and you will soon collect a wealth which no one can rob.

What happens when a Maharaja meets a Maharaja?

They exchange homosexual smiles. They can't afford to exchange singing girls now.

Do Sindhis sing?

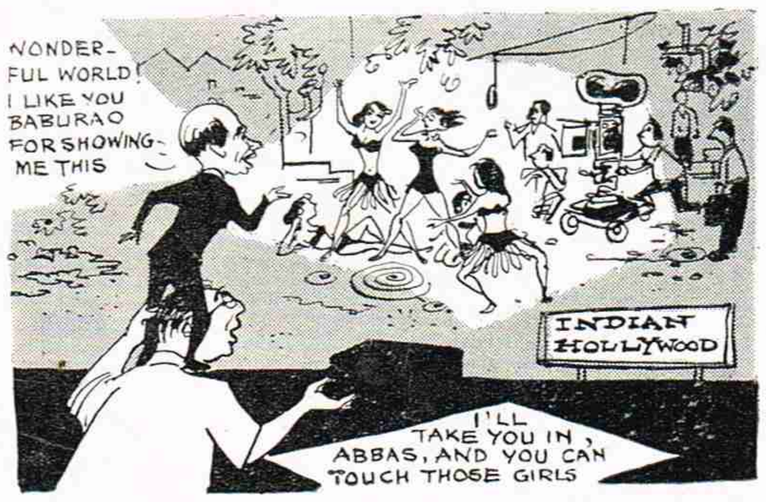
There is no commission to be earned in a song. For a Sindhi money is usually all the music.

Can Iris sing a lullaby?

Iris is not a musician. She is a circus girl and believes in acrobatics.

Does K. Abbas like you?

No. A short man rarely likes a tall one.


WONDERFUL WORLD! I LIKE YOU BABURAO FOR SHOWING ME THIS
INDIAN HOLLYWOOD
I'LL TAKE YOU IN, ABBAS, AND YOU CAN TOUCH THOSE GIRLS

Has Neelam missed the bus?

Neelam never cared for the bus. All she wants is a moving pillion.

Anna Magnani has a Sindhi surname?

That is why she misappropriated the Academy Award this year.

B. SANTOSH (Kuala Lumpur)

What have our film producers taught us?

They have taught us nothing. On the other hand they have learnt how to be insolvents while riding in expensive cars.

MRS. NOMITA BAGCHI (Allahabad)

Chintu's budget leaked!

Age creates many embarrassments.

Do you know that Katju has a Navy also?

Yes, the same one which ex-Defence Minister Baldeo Singh once wanted to take to Kashmir to fight the raiders.

R. SESHADRI (Madras)

Vinobha Bhave says that he never touched money for the last so many years?

Which means that he lived on people's hospitality. That is sponging. There is nothing shameful in a man handling his own hard-earned money and buying food with it.

What is Sucheta Kripalani's achievement?

She has not taken advantage of our divorce laws yet. An ideal Hindu wife.

When does a woman reveal her true colours?

When she sees another woman in her husband's bed.

Even R. K. Karanjia of "Blitz" named Nehru as the man of the year 1955.

Russi is after Government's advertising budget for 1956.

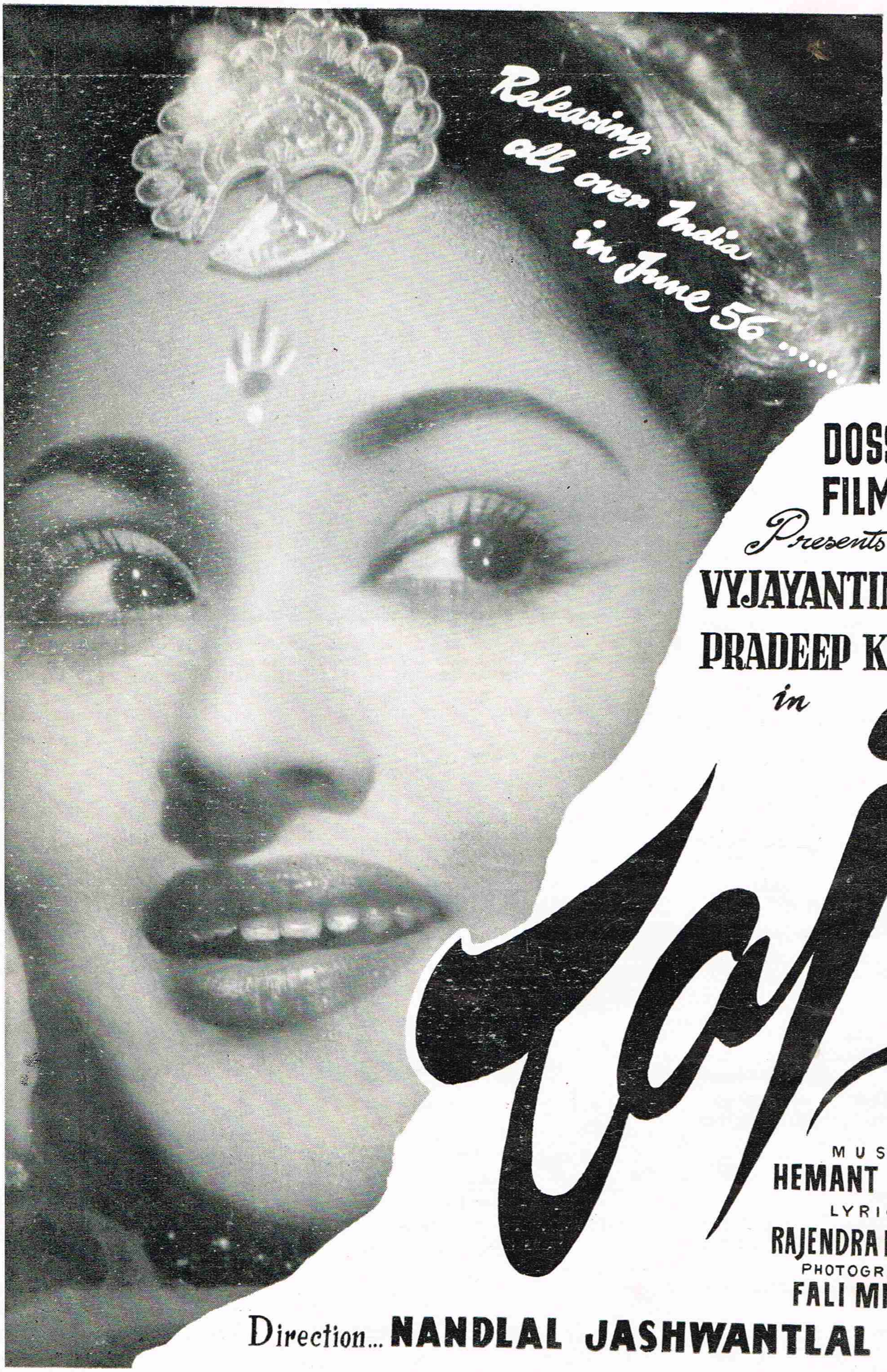
EBENEZER SOANS (Calcutta)

Because of "filmindia" my sister has begun to wear Khatau voiles?

Send me a photograph of her wearing the voile.

Why do Hollywood producers over-emphasize their film heroines' bosoms in their films?

This is a modern "gopi" and not an ancient "cow" answering the romantic notes of a French flute. Nimmi brings new emotion to the screen in her passionate romance with Bharat Bhushan in "Basant Bahar", a thrilling love tale.



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DOSSI FILMS PRIVATE LTD. Mehboob Studios, Hill Road, Bandra, Bombay 20.

There is box-office in those bosoms.

Why does Jai Chand Jain present nude trophies?

That is all our laws will let him do.

When you granted me an interview why were you always conversing with me in an easy manner?

I never see people when I am constipated.

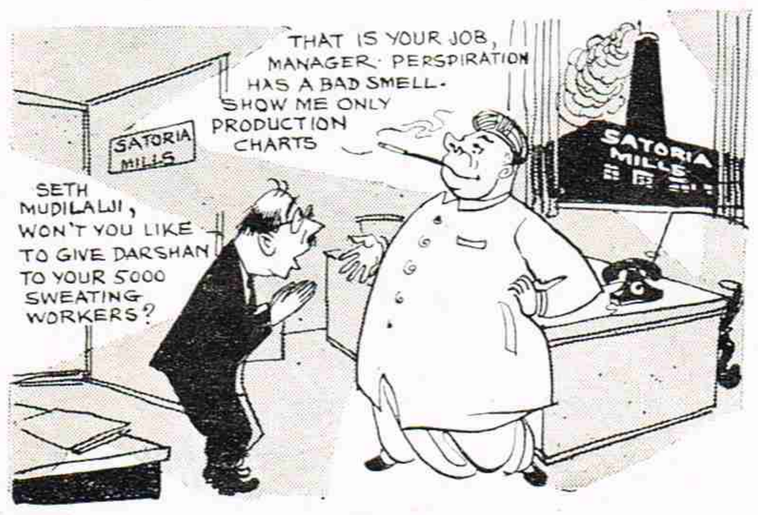
On 6-4-56 I saw you in person; but when can I hear you roaring in "Girnar"?

When you visit Bombay again you can see my circus.

MRS. V. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

Why do some die with mouths open?

In the hope that the world will give them a morsel at least while departing.


THAT IS YOUR JOB, MANAGER. PERSPIRATION HAS A BAD SMELL. SHOW ME ONLY PRODUCTION CHARTS
SATORIA MILLS
SATORIA MILLS
SETH MUDILALJI, WON'T YOU LIKE TO GIVE DARSHAN TO YOUR 5000 SWEATING WORKERS?

K. A. KRISHNA RAO (Bombay)

"These my lamps are blown at every puff of wind, and trying to light them I forget all else again and again." That is the sorry plight of my life. What shall I do, Mr. Patel?

Stop reading stupid poetry. Read the Income Tax Act. It will bring you to your senses.

P. VISHWANATHA RAO (New Delhi)

Of whom is Nehru afraid?

He is afraid of his face. His democratic make-up is too thin. He is afraid of exposing the skin.

I am going to be married shortly. Will you be kind enough to grace the occasion with your wife and children?

I have wives and children and to take them to Delhi and bring them back will cost me at least Rs. 5000/-. In that amount I can myself risk another marriage. I cannot, therefore, attend the wedding but you can have my prayers, Vishwanath.

You look quite funny in "jubba" and pyjamas?

My tailor is also a cartoonist.

B. M. MALHOTRA (New Delhi)

If you are left alone on an island with Marilyn Monroe?

The world would not know after whom to name the island unless, of course, they call it Eden and escape their responsibility.

What is this new slogan "Ambar Charkha"?

Anything in "charkha" is humbug, whether amber or cucumber.

"When you go to women", says Nietzsche, "take your whip with you"?

We buried those women long ago. Now men wear quilts below their shirts before going to women.

M. S. PARDESI (Bombay)

If Amul Desai talks sense?

He does but it sounds like nonsense in the midst of Congress idiots.

Is Bhausaheb Hiray a "bhang" addict?

Does he look like a "bhangad"?

Who is Mama Warerkar?

That is a brilliant misfortune on two legs.

Has your father changed his opinion about you?

His will is still the same.

These air hostesses smile so artificially?

A command performance cannot be natural.

M. KRISHNA RAO (Khargpur)

Do you know any secrets of Swami Shivananda?

Has a man of God any secrets?

PREM P. MALIK (Bahadurgarh)

What will happen if Maulana Azad starts worshipping a pipal tree?

The pipal tree will grow a beard and start calling the faithful to prayer.

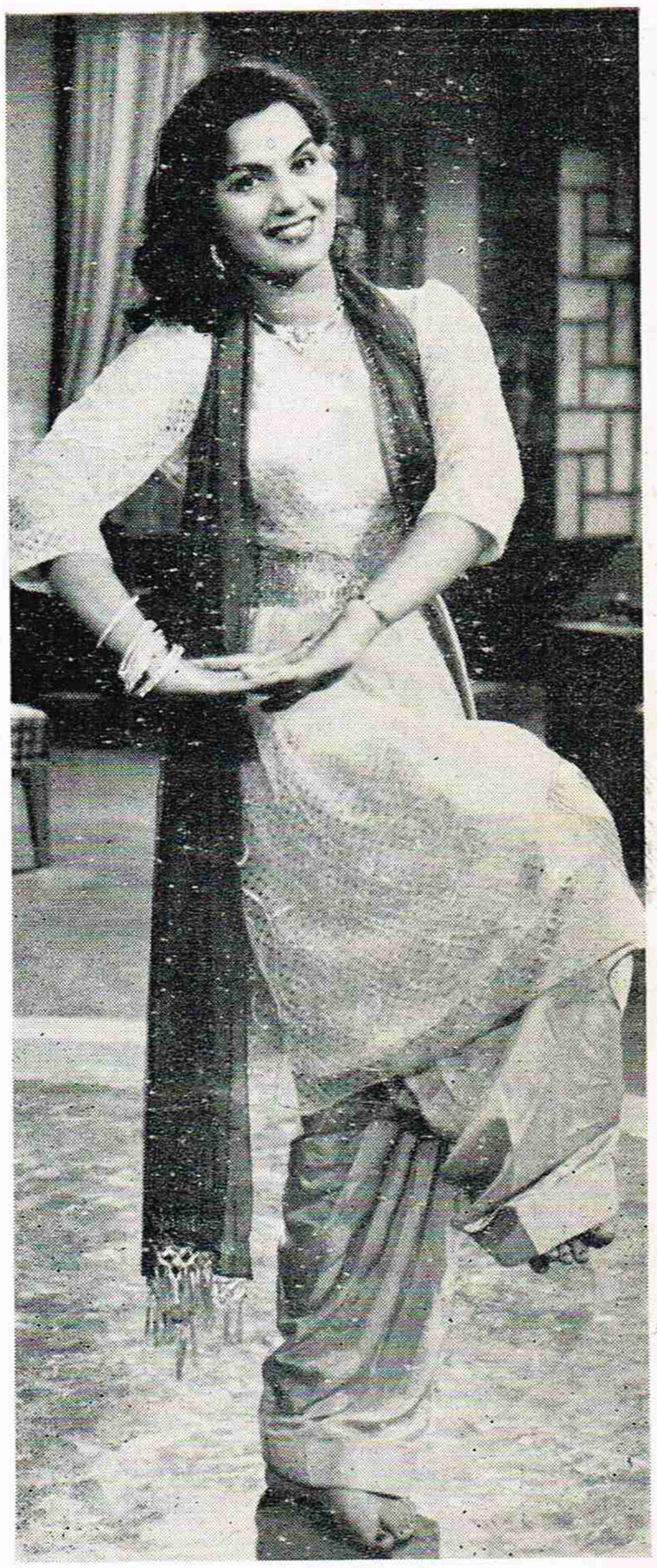
B. N. SHARMA (Lucknow)

Pandit Nehru has not threatened to resign from Prime Ministership since long?

That is not necessary now that he has completely desexualised his Congress colleagues.

Is it true that Meenakumari writes beautiful short stories?

That is a fairy tale. That woman can't cut her own story short.



What will not women do for money? For, in the two-legged animal they take to bed, they see the only god of wealth who can answer their prayers. Shyama, who plays a vamp in AVM's "Bhai Bhai", tries to please the two-legged god with her one-legged "tandav".

M. JANARDHAN YADAVA (Secunderabad)

In what way are you useful to the nation?

I dull its labour pains with humour. Without me could you have borne the pain of losing ten crores of rupees in corruption alone in the Bhakra Nangal Dam?

What is your opinion about your children?

They have better luck than I had.

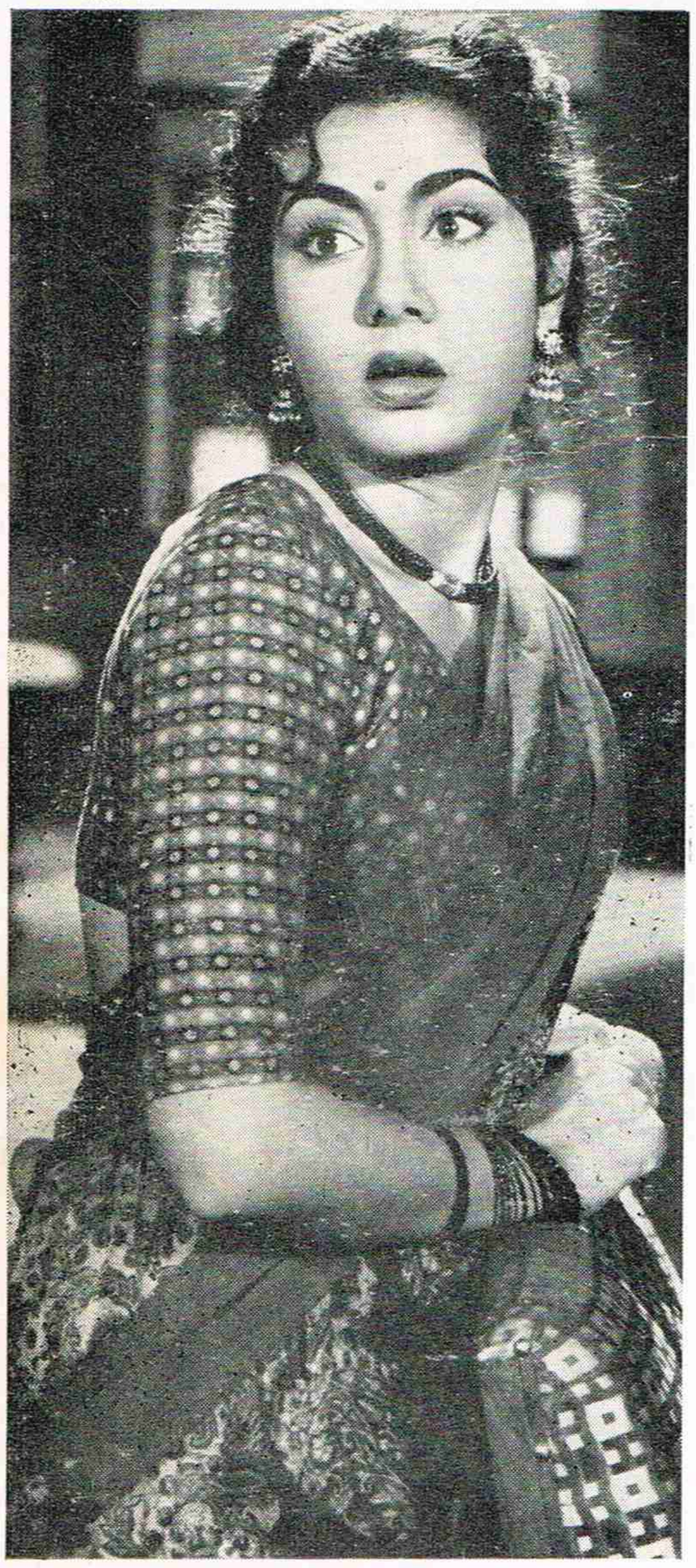
K. PONNUSWAMY (Poona)

Krishna and Nargis are friends?

Boxers always shake hands before a fight.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

In "Kulapati's Letter" No. 96 dated 11-3-56, K. M. Munshi claims ancestorship with sage Bhrigu?



When the man they worship suddenly becomes a monster women lose all faith in the philosophies of life and worry about the mathematics of self-preservation. Nimmi is in terrible danger in "Bhai Bhai", a moving melodrama produced by AVM.

A useless link! His son-in-law claims as an ancestor the man who invented tube-wells.

Who is Ishrat?

That is a small time-bomb from Pakistan.

Who is Mohana's husband?

He is the proverbial unknown warrior who gets an annual service.

Why has Fali Mistry lost his interest in Shyama?

How can a man lose any interest if he has no capital invested?

Who is this Ardeshir Irani?

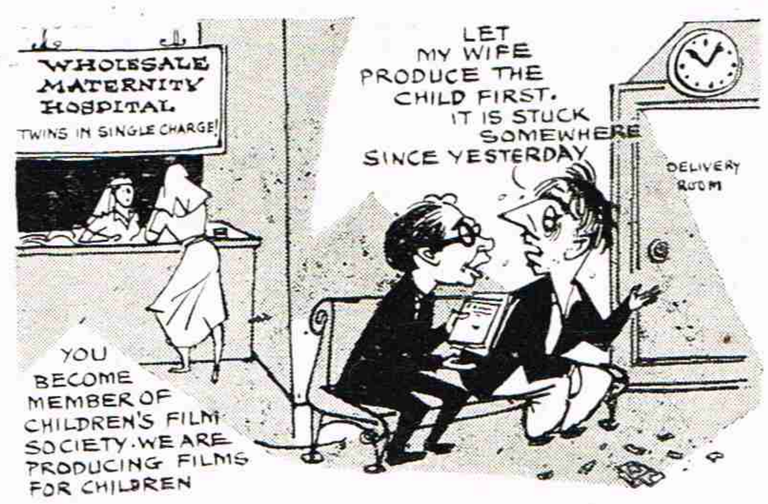
Rheumatic memory of a riotous past in motion picture production.

Who are the Wadia Brothers?

They are producers "by special appointment to the masses".

What is Mahendranath's interest in children's films due to?

Mahendra likes to be attached to a basic industry to entertain its product. While parents extract profits from their beds, Mahendra will take profits from the cradles.


WHOLESALE MATERNITY HOSPITAL
TWINS IN SINGLE CHARGE!
LET MY WIFE PRODUCE THE CHILD FIRST. IT IS STUCK SOMEWHERE SINCE YESTERDAY
DELIVERY ROOM
YOU BECOME MEMBER OF CHILDREN'S FILM SOCIETY. WE ARE PRODUCING FILMS FOR CHILDREN

A. V. NARASIMHAN (Secunderbad)

Is Karan Dewan a harmless hubby?

Harmless? He sent his wife to the maternity hospital five times.

How do the Travancore sisters impress you?

Padmini seems to be a pleasant medicine.

I breathe "filmindia", I talk "filmindia", I eat "filmindia", I love "filmindia". And you?

I use it as a plate.

What should I burn at love's altar?

Intelligence. It burns slowly and the fragrance spreads far and wide.

Rajaji called B. C. Roy as "the patriot among the patriots of Bengal".

Rajaji can be very sarcastic when necessary.

K. SYAMALA (Waltair)

Dhritharashtra had 100 children?

The blind know only one way.

Are Gujaratis sportsmen?

The famous Merchant brothers, Vijay and Uday, are Gujaratis. And what fine men they are apart from being fine sportsmen.

How much percentage do the American women expose to the sun?

Though they expose a lot of skin that is hardly one per cent of the total value. What they hide is worth 99%. And only when Marilyn Monroe exposed those 99% she entered the homes and hearts of millions.

MRS. SHAKUNTALA KAPOOR (Bombay)

What happened to the ever-standing father?

He has been replaced by an ever-jealous husband. Poor Meenakumari!

B. S. MANI (Madras)

When I come to Bombay how can I recognize Morarji Desai?

If you see a man guarded like a dangerous criminal all the time, that is Morarji Desai.

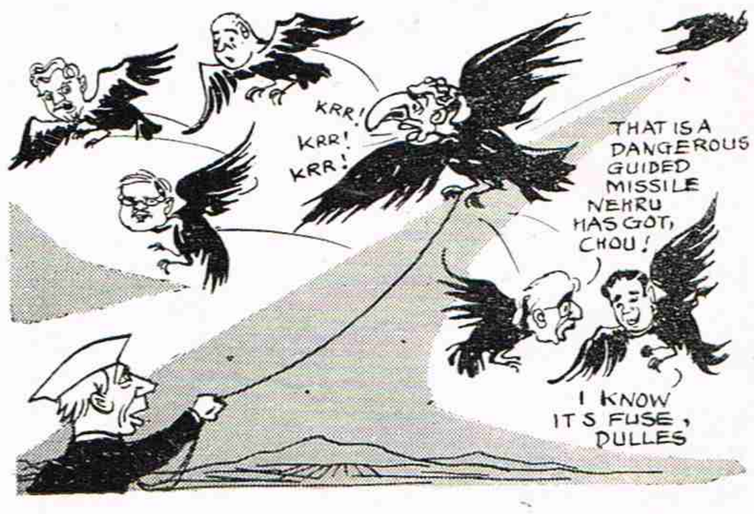
How do you like Stalin?

I like all dead men. They are all virtuous and peaceful.

JAGDISH JAIN (Delhi)

What is our foreign policy these days?

Flying the black kite and scaring the vultures.



S. R. AMBEKAR (Shreepur)

In my dreams I saw Baburao Patel looking like a sadhu sitting at Panchavati and looking at women?

Quite possible! Keskar's father is in Panchavati in the sadhu business.

P. S. GOEL (Meerut)

Are our ministers good trustees?

Yes, of travelling allowance.

Are you in favour of the nationalization of our film industry?

That will be nationalizing chronic insolvency.

G. KRISHNAMURTHY (Kolar Gold Fields)

Nimmi says she has not yet been kissed. Any other actress in the same category?

No, the others are more fortunate.

C. B. LALL (New Delhi)

Is the report correct that Jabalpur has 75% of the world's mosquito population?

When Prem Nath lived there, it was 100%.

R. K. SHANKER (New Delhi)

What steps would a patriotic magazine like "filmindia" recommend to the 40 million Muslims of India for the purpose of resolving the Indo-Pakistan crisis?

If our 40 million Muslim "bhaijans" would march into Pakistan as week-end guests, the rulers of Pakistan would see sense in a day.

Mock modesty is a gesture of salesmanship with women. Vyjayantimala is only laying a trap for some poor man in "New Delhi", a social theme.

A. S. WAHEDNA (Bombay)

How is it that your horse "Golden Jubilee" as it changed hands, won his race on April Fool's Day?

Doesn't that prove that I was born three days late?

K. BALCHANDRA NAIDU (B.R. Project)

Who benefits by the River Valley schemes?

The Congress contractors and engineers.

K. T. GOPINATH (Tellicherry)

Bharat Bhushan has an innocent look?

His innocence ends with the look.

AYYAPPAN (Nileshwar)

Is it true that Mehboob came to Bombay with only three rupees and now he has lakhs ?

He doesn't have even those three rupees now. Those first three rupees he could at least call his own.

VIRENDRA S. MODY (Bombay)

Supposing you were made the Prime Minister for a day. What reforms will you introduce ?

I shall poison all the scheming, dehydrated women that surround Nehru. Next day Nehru can resume work without inhibitions.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

What is 'Jagte Raho' ?

That means keeping awake while Nargis is shooting in other studios.

SHHH! DABBOO, MEN DON'T KEEP AWAKE FOR AUNTIES
GR! GR! GR! GRRRR!
WAH! AUNTIE NARGIS WORKING AND PAPAJI SLEEPING? WHAT SENSE OF CHIVALRY!

K. C. VAIDYAR (Kumbla)

Which is the most suitable place for enjoying honeymoon in India ?

Sewagram! It is a place for spiritual union without physical contact and therefore a centre of "Sarvodaya". Honeymoon there never hurts anyone.

When in company of Mountbatten, Nehru feels quite happy. Why ?

Short people often imagine an increase in their stature in the company of tall ones and feel happy.

B. KASI REDDY (Secunderabad)

Which is a legalized crime ?

Income tax is legalized blackmail.

G. ANNAJI RAO (Kothagudium)

I see these days something new in you though it looks like the immemorially ancient ?

It is the impatient homeward look which takes a man to a better world.

P. S. LAWATE (Satna)

Name some of your good friends ?

I have very few friends but if I name them they will lose caste in the world around them.

M. S. LULLA (Bombay)

Please name the best substitute for beer in Bombay's summer ?

Dilip Kumar Amrose Syrup seems to be in fashion.

Don't you think that the Sindhis in Bombay are perhaps the most mixing and sociable group ?

People who live on the middleman's profit have to be in the middle.

PREM N. MEHRA (Delhi)

How do you get your ideas ?

I buy them in the market of fools.

IMMANUEL SOANS (Mulki)

At what place was your Hindu religion born ?

Hinduism is not a religion. Hinduism is humanity. It was born with man.

How popular is "filmindia" in Hollywood ?

Popular enough to spoil the appetite of the Hollywood producers.

MRS. MINAL JHAVERI (Bombay)

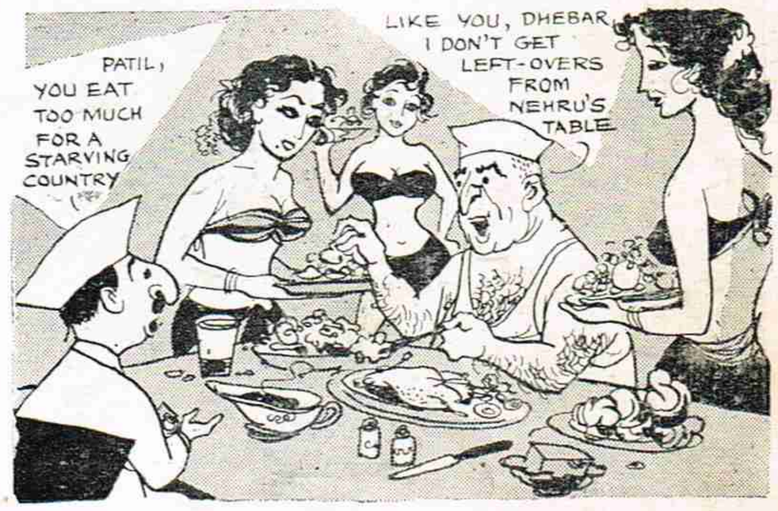
How long does a boy remain friendly with a girl?

My best record so far is 34 years and it continues.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

Why don't we hear of S. K. Patil's fasting?

Patil did not get into politics to fast. He did a lot of starving before becoming a politician.



RAM L. NAKRA (Jullundur)

"I am a practical man", says Pandit Nehru?

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THIS BOOK IS BEING PRINTED AT THE REQUEST OF THE READERS OF FILMINDIA. IT CONTAINS ALL THE IMPORTANT EDITORIALS PROPERLY EDITED AND WITH COMMENT

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by

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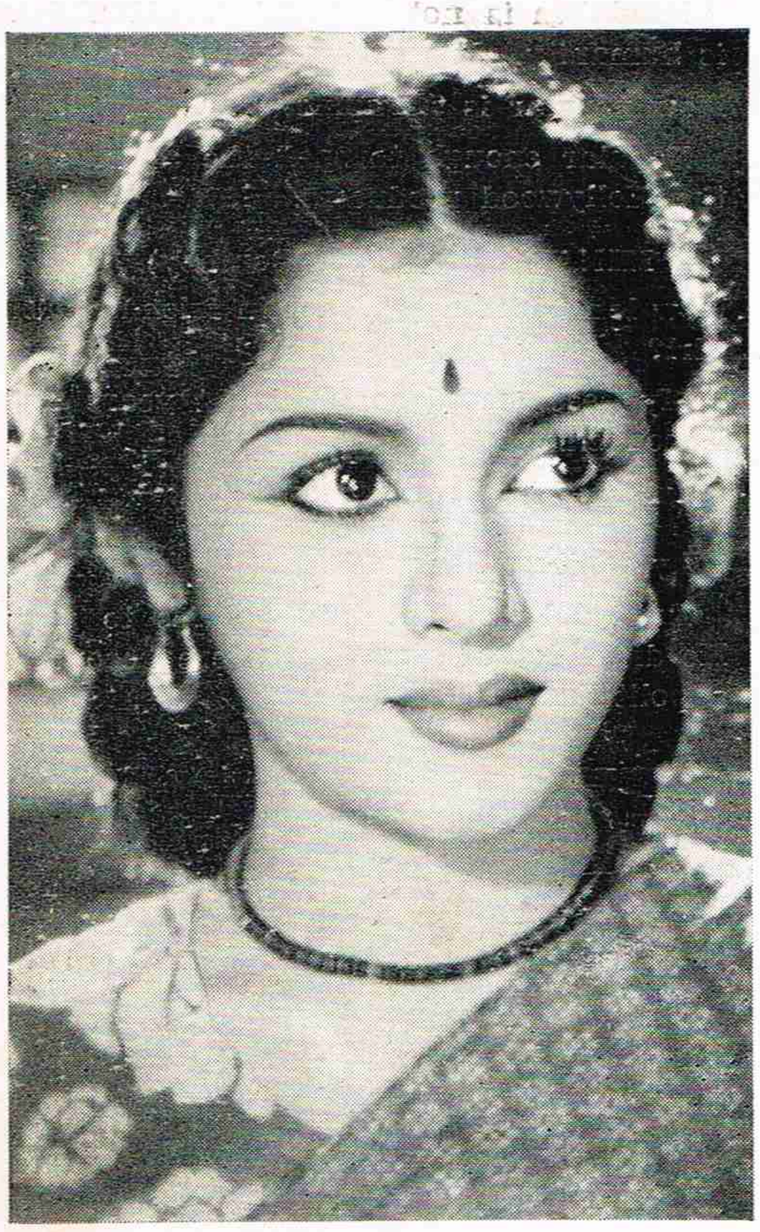


There are hydrogen bombs in her stare. But Padmini has bombs all over. She is an atomic armoury of romance. If you feel like getting yourself scorched with her radio-activity, meet her in "Payal", an endless rhythm of love produced by Madras Talkies and released by AVM.

We must believe him. He has looked after himself and his family very well.

Are you ready to have a 'darshan' of our Master Tara Singh?

All Sikhs look like Tara Singh. Why-pick him out then?

Queen Suraiya of Iran was something! Eh, Babs?

Very disappointing! She has a nose that doesn't belong to the rest of her body.

Between the devil and a film actress, name your choice?

The film actress! I am not a homo.

Has J. C. Jain a ready tongue?

Yes, but it doesn't cut any furrows now. Jai Chand had a very short season of power.

Here a Congressman who used to carry the baby of a Congress Minister to school has become a deputy minister himself. Wonderful, sir?

Nothing new! Most of our ministers are gift-horses including Krishna Menon.

If I propose to an Anglo-Indian girl?

Don't risk this unless you have a good background.

A. G. SOMAN (Amravati)

A smile on G. B. Pant's face!

You can't see it. He has a 'mudguard' over his mouth.

MRS. H. K. RANGANAYAKI (Poona)

Do you think that prayers sometimes go unanswered because we are praying for the wrong things?

Why should you expect an answer for prayers? God doesn't keep a gift shop to give away gifts after every prayer. Prayer is an exercise for the soul just as running or swimming is for the body.

K. G. MATHUR (Ghaziabad)

When were you last hard up?

In a chronic illness it is difficult to remember a particular bad day.

MRS. T. S. SAMEER (Colombo)

What is the position of Matunga in the S.R.C. context?

Matunga will be treated as the appendix of the south—to be surgically removed if painful.

B. BHAWANKHEL (Bikaner)

The book prescribed by the Director of Education as a text book of English for Class VIII in Rajasthan, reads, "Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869. His father's name was Mohan Das Gandhi."

So Gandhiji was his own son. I always suspected something odd about him. Anyway, now you know how the Congressmen are educating our people.

G. R. CHANDRAN (Madras)

What is the difference between Shakila and Shashikala?

There is a whole religion of difference apart from a husband and one child. Shakila is a Muslim and not married.

My date of birth is 3rd November 1932?

Watch your headaches and blood pressure. Otherwise you will have to nurse a bad heart.

MRS. SATYA GANDHI (Kuala Lumpur)

If ever you come to Malaya?

I won't return to India without meeting you. Keep dressed and ready.

SRAVAN K. NANGIA (Simla)

No Sindhi girls on the Mall, Simla.

The locality must be infested by Sikhs. Sindhi girls don't like beards.

G. N. PAI (Bombay)

How do I.C.S. Officers' wives pass their time in Delhi?

They burst each other's pimples.

THAT ARMY BOY GAVE IT TO ME, ARUNA
ARUNA IS AN OBLIG ING GIRL
OH, MEERA, THAT IS A BIG ONE
OBLIGING MY FOOT. SHE WANTS TO SEE IF MEERA IS WEARING FALSIES.

Y. A. YAZDANI (Bassein)

Dr. Keskar says every house needs a radio set?

Yes, to hear Ceylon Radio.

K. LAKSHMI (Proddatur)

Tulsi Sameer! Tulsi in the hands of a Muslim?

Muslims are evidently becoming idol worshippers.

Is widow a half burnt wick?

Not necessarily. The flame migh not have even reached the wick.

Even C. R. met Bulganin. What about you?

Rajaji wanted a free trip to Russia. I didn't.

M. G. SOMAN (Amravati)

Can this highly-debated word 'Maharashtrian' be defined?

J.R.D. Tata is a Maharashtrian.

Mr. Mikoyan said, "The people of India have sympathetic faces."

Hungry beggars cannot help but look sympathetic. It is the full stomach that belches arrogance.

Why do South Indians generally hate Hindi?

South Indians don't hate Hindi but they don't like Hindi being rammed down their throat in an unholy hurry.

Can I make a show of my belief in God?

Do. One day you will come to believe your own show.

What is the real meaning of the term 'kafir'?

In Pakistan 'kafir' means a Hindu. In Egypt 'kafir' means a Jew from Israel. In Afghanistan, for the moment only, 'kafir' means a Pakistani.

A. G. SOMAN (Amravati)

Is Nehru an atheist?

No. An atheist won't have the face of a god.

How is the Bombay Municipal Corporation functioning these days?

D. G. Tendulkar, the famous author of "Mahatma" and friend of Nehru, says that Bombay has the most rotten Municipality in the world.

K. RAMA RAO (Shimoga)

What is the object of establishing Family Planning Centres?

To teach people the art of turning a normal event into a casualty. That way women get more kick out of the new arrivals.

TRIPLETS ! WHAT A WONDERFUL ACCIDENT
AFTER TWO YEARS OF PEAS AND PESSARIES YOUR HUSBAND DESERVES PADMA VIBHUSHAN, MY DEAR
ISN'T HE GREAT?

Chief Minister Hanumanthaiyya generally wears a laced turban. But I found him dressed in pure khaddar with a Gandhi cap when he came out in a procession with Pandit Nehru in our town a few days ago. Why this sudden simplicity, Babs?

All Congressmen are actors and all Chief Ministers are box office hits.

M. KRISHNA RAO (Khargpur)

Is the mind capable of freedom from belief?

Yes. Belief makes the mind small and narrow. It separates and segregates the man and denies him the opportunity of thinking and creating.

A. VINCENT FERNANDO (Radhapuram)

Who represented "filmindia" in the All India Journalists' tour in North India?

No one did. The magazine itself goes on a world tour every month.

MANOHAR M. (Simla)

Why does the landlord fear his tenants?

The tenants might misuse the Rent Act and call the landlord's wife to bed. In these days everything that a landlord owns belongs to the tenants.

Do you think Vinoba Bhave will ever become the Prime Minister of India?

Why not? Anything can happen in this country. The 'Bhoodan Bhoot' will at least attract American tourist traffic.

K. P. MALAVIA (Bombay)

What does C. D. Deshmukh lack?

He hasn't the crime record of the average Congressman. Poor Chintu, no one put him even in a cattle pound, leave alone a jail.

What has Nira achieved?

It has made illicit liquor very popular.

The Sindhis in Bombay could build three colleges and one hospital in less than a decade's stay in the city, while the Maharashtrians, who claim to have been responsible for the city's development, haven't got a single hospital here in spite of so many Maharashtrian doctors. How come?

If you repeat that question, the cultured Maharashtrians will abuse you.

K..M. RAO (Calcutta)

What do you see in Nimmi's eyes?

There is decision in her smiling eyes. When the girl makes up her mind ,she grows new character.

Slums should be burnt down, says Nehru?

Haven't we heard that before?

When will Negroes create a history?

It will take another three hundred years. To paint the white man black in these days of different soaps is a Herculean job.

Suppose Sushilaji suspects you?

She doesn't. She sees me doing things. In my life there is no scope for suspicion.

Do Congressmen admire you?

The honest ones do.

It is the height of impudence that the rice-eating South Indians should teach romance to the hot-blooded Pathans. But having taken their Bharat Natyam into all Indian homes and given an extra spring to all maidenly and married beds, the South Indians have become very aggressive these days. Here is an exciting romantic dance perfectly performed by that tantalizing belle, Nimmi, and the ever-gay Romeo, Kishore Kumar, in "Bhai Bhai", a thrilling entertainment produced by AVM.

What does ballroom dancing improve?

The legs!

MISS ASHA RANA (Banda)

Why are drums being beaten every morning and evening in the temples of our country?

To wake up the sleeping gods of the Hindus. The gods don't wake up but the Muslims in the neighbourhood do.

S. BHOWAL (Toungoo)

What happens when Pandit Nehru has constipation?

He reads the news that Golwalkar, the R.S.S. Chief, collected 21 lakhs of rupees as a birthday gift.

Will Congress win the next general election?

Yes. Congress must win the election,

Why the hell did God create mosquitoes?

To kill the most guarded dictator when necessary.

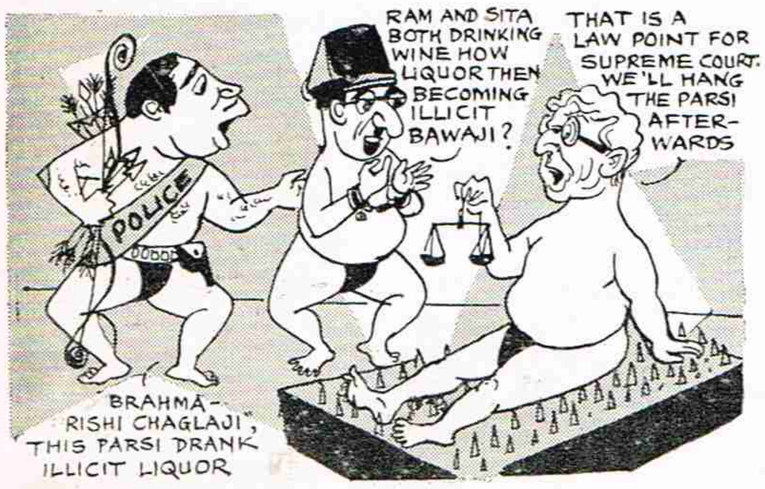
How do you like the National Ekco radio sets?

Poor stuff!

S. GOPALAKRISHNAN (Madras)

What will exist in the place of High Courts in Ram Rajya?

In Ram Rajya Justice Chagla will have to wear a long, flowing beard, wear a langoti and sit on spikes like Vasista.


POLICE
RAM AND SITA BOTH DRINKING WINE HOW LIQUOR THEN BECOMING ILLICIT BAWAJI?
THAT IS A LAW POINT FOR SUPREME COURT. WE'LL HANG THE PARSI AFTER-WARDS
BRAHMA-RISHI CHAGLAJI, THIS PARSI DRANK ILLICIT LIQUOR

BHASKAR T. PURANIK (Bombay)

What is a comedy about a corpse?

Its mouth is filled with food but it cannot eat. It is a tragic comedy.

On what grounds do you say that Grace Kelly's marriage is an introduction to unhappiness?

On astrological grounds! Besides, not once in the long history of man has a prince made a good husband. Princes are brought up to be cads and a good, sensitive and intelligent girl like Grace deserved someone better.

M. B. BHATIA (Bombay)

"I have no time to hear my own praise", says Nehru?

It is no use telling a drunkard that he is drunk.

PREM C. SINHA (Arrah)

Can a woman having six children succeed in arresting your attention?

Yes. My "bhabhi", Mrs. Kardar, has six lovely children and she always attracts my attention. I love to see my mother in her lovely face.

When will China show her teeth?

In another 20 years perhaps!

N. S. R. SUBBAN CHETTY (Pannaikkadu)

I see "filmindia" in the hands of women of forties!

Women need hormones at that age.

S. GAJENDRAN (Madras)

What are the ways and means to end corruption among government servants!

Double their present salaries and then shoot them for corruption.

Can you recommend a good exercise for putting on flesh?

Take an ounce of Dilip Kumar Amrose Syrup in 8 ounces of milk three times a day. If that doesn't help you nothing else will.

HARIRAM G. JUGAT (Bombay)

What do you think of Mikoyan?

A Communist doesn't encourage thinking. He supplies readymade thought.

MRS. VAGAL CHHAYA (Bombay)

If Maulana Abul Kalam Azad goes to Pakistan?

Why should he go to Pakistan? He is not unemployed.

PREM N. MEHRA (Delhi)

Is radio a nuisance or an entertainer these days?

All India Radio is a nuisance—pure and simple—most of the time.

T. K. AIDASANI (Bombay)

If you would have been a Sindhi?

Am I not one? I thought I also became a Sindhi when you guys came over and joined us.

Where do Nagas get arms?

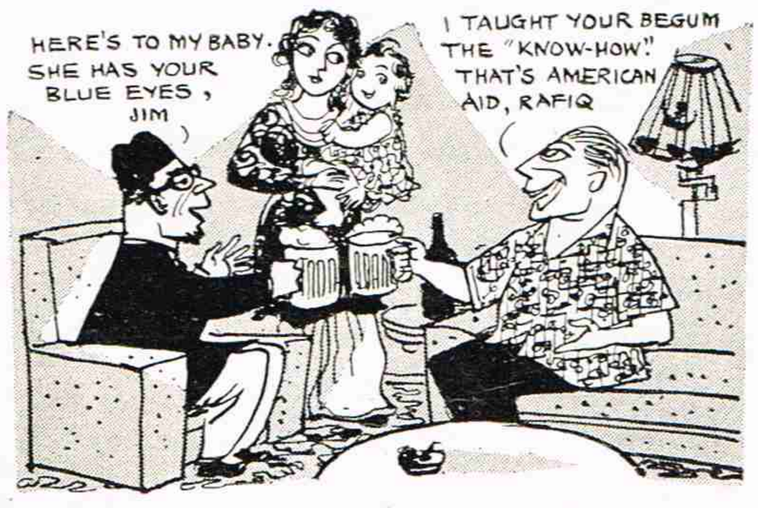
East Pakistan supplies all the arms which the Nagas need to kill Indians. Nagaland is Pakistan's second front.

Why doesn't the Government of India put duty on printed material coming from abroad?

That is a peculiarly Sindhi problem. Please write to Finance Minister C. D. Deshmukh. He wants money by hook or by crook.

What price will Pakistan pay for American arms aid?

Insolvents never pay. Pakistan has nothing, either in national wealth or in racial character, to lose.



M. ANNAMALAI (Bombay)

Why has Idli Sambar become so popular in the North?

People in the North are starving these days due to the impossible cost of living. They have therefore taken to the championship diet of the starving champions of the South.

KHURSHED UL HAQ (Lucknow)

Has any actress given birth to twins?

Film virgins give birth to producers—not only in twins but in triplets and even quintuplets.

WHO ARE THESE?
GALA PREMIERE TONIGHT
SHAITAN KI BETI
YOUR NEW TRIPLETS BORN TONIGHT MADAM. THEY WANT TO PRODUCE YOUR PICTURES

MRS. T. S. SAMEER (Colombo)

Do Congressmen fast?

People who die for power never fast.

HEMCHANDRA B. PATIL (Koppal)

I have often observed that there is something novel or beautiful in the way of life of many of the "filmindia" fans, either in respect of thought or speech or manner or behaviour. Why?

Do you know how many of them are in I.A.S.? The readers of "filmindia" are the future rulers of the country and it is heartening to hear that they stand out from the rest of the crowd. My work of years seems to be bearing fruit at last.

Here at Koppal, the cocks have begun to crow at midnight?

Sin seems to have changed its dial.

V. P. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN (Madras)

Does Padmini know how to kiss?

If she knows how to be kissed it is more than enough. That is a great art which Nimmi, at least, doesn't know.

MISS MANIK BHANDARE (Bombay)

If we preserve Tendulkar's house as historical ruins?

Tendulkar will demand royalty on the house. That man won't give us even a free smile.

If Dr. Lohia had a tail?

We wouldn't be searching for some explanation of his antics.

S. K. Patil stays alone on Marine Drive?

Lonely wolf! Have you seen anybody going in?

Of what can a saint boast?

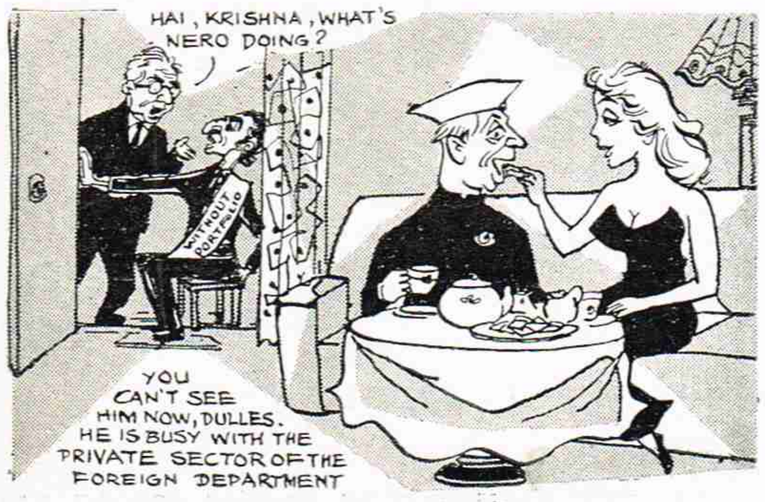
Of the blind stupidity of his followers.

Some say that Karanjia and Karaka are better than Baburao in politics?

That is right. Russi and Dossu are experts. They have to change their politics every week to reveal the full range of their expert knowledge.

What is the work of a Minister without portfolio?

He can scratch the back of the Prime Minister when the Prime Minister's hands are busy.


HAI, KRISHNA, WHAT'S NERO DOING?
WITHOUT PORTFOLIO
YOU CAN'T SEE HIM NOW, DULLES. HE IS BUSY WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR OF THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Y. K. KATTIMANI (Bijapur)

If Gandhiji had lived another 25 years?

He would have wiped off the name he had made in the first 75 years. Had Godse not come to his rescue, Gandhiji would have died a man instead of a god.

If all M.L.A.'s and M.P.'s were given free and compulsory "Nira" when attending the sessions?

The Speaker will never have a quorum and all resolutions will have a diarrhoeic smell.

RAJ A. CHHUGANI (Jullundur)

If Raj Kapoor becomes a multi-millionaire?

Raj is a multi-millionaire already. His pictures have made huge fortunes.

I don't listen to Keskar's AIR because I don't possess a radio?

Lucky fellow! Send me your photograph.

Who calls you 'devta'?

Whoever wants to do so will have to discuss the offerings with me first. A good return must be guaranteed before I agree to play this new role.

Where will Pak Premier, Mohammed Ali, end?

He will be kicked out. Look out for a dark horse called Amjad Ali. He is the Finance Minister now.

Smriti Biswas is too short?

She has all the parts though.

What is your sincere advice to Sindhis of Bombay?

Vacate the clubs and live in homes.

Is Ashok Mehta a likeable person?

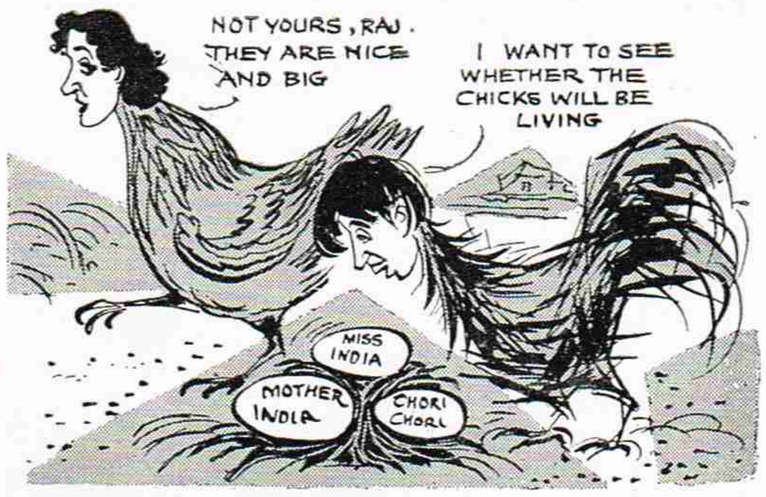
No. He is a P.S.P. snob. All P.S.P. fellows think they are slightly superhuman and behave funnily. Even my family physician, a good and kind man till yesterday, has started feeling important now after some P.S.P. contamination.

How would you like to see the President's Gold Medal round V. Shantaram's neck?

Shantaram's neck deserves it more than the two previous ones.

Does Nargis lay golden eggs these days?

Yes, and bigger ones too.



Suppose you come across Marilyn Monroe in your dreams?

My dreams are planned. They are not products of pressure on the bladder.

D. P. MOHINDRA (Dehra Dun)

What is the difference between a prostitute and a society butterfly?

A society butterfly is more expensive and less satisfying.

S. T. ARASAN (Madras)

I was born on nine - ten - nineteen twenty nine. The date sounds musical but.....?

But you sing the wrong song every time. You are too impulsive and argumentative. Control your temper if you want harmony in yourself. And don't be surprised if someone assaults you one day because of your tongue.

Dainty & Delicate

The charm and personality of the well-groomed lady commands respect. Her delicate daintiness is a delight. And her lovely *lustrous hair*, completes her personal grace. Is it any wonder that lovely ladies conscious of *hair-beauty* invariably choose COCOLA for complete hair-care?

COCOLA
Grows & Guards the Hair

THE MOST POPULAR HAIR OIL IN INDIA

JEWEL OF INDIA PERFUME CO. CALCUTTA-34.

C. B. SINGH (Delhi)

What will Prithviraj bring after his goodwill mission abroad?

He always brings a little more of himself back.

HARIRAM C. GOR (Bhuj)

What is patriotism?

That is an excuse to abuse a rival in politics.

PRAKASH SINGH (Bombay)

What is Prem Nath's hobby these days? Has he become a baby-sister?

Prem is looking after the home these days.

If Nehru lives a 100 years?

We'll pray for another 100 years. With all his faults he is better than the best we have.

M. C. KALPAVRAKSH (Bombay)

How to read the minds of the Russian leaders?

Read their old history. In Communism history repeats too often.

B. SUBBA RAO (Bombay)

I would still vote for Nehru than for anyone else in the country?

So would I, because there is no one else so handsome.

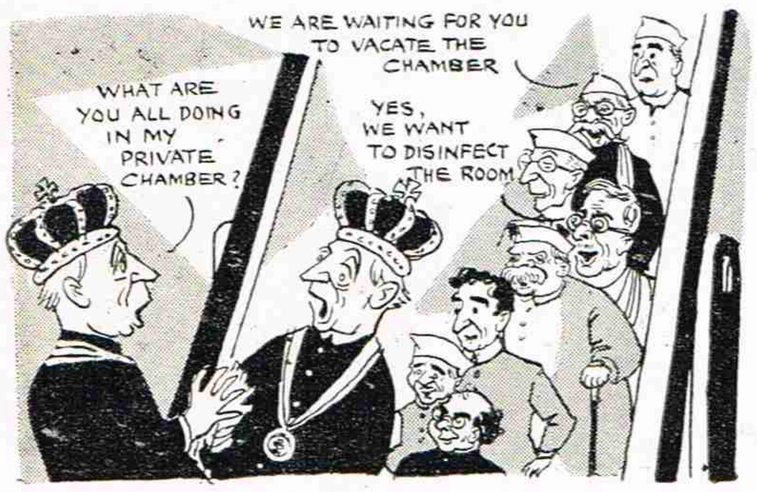
If Gujaratis started eating meat?

They will perform the same "tamasha" which Maharashtrians performed recently in the streets of Bombay.

S. V. NATHAN (Poona)

What does Nehruji see in the mirror these days?

He sees his successors, waiting to push him out of the mirror.



When does S. K. Patil make hay?

Patil makes hay when the moon shines. Sunshine is a bit too strong for his schemes.

Have we only one Nehru in the whole world?

Yes. Another one and we would have become deaf.

VINODRAI G. BHATT (Kanpur)

Birth of a son on 11-11-1955 at 11-30 P. M. Bapuji, would you please predict?

Dressed with good clothes and good smiles, this is how people meet each other in the world. The smile hides the pain, while the clothes disguise other worries. It is a polite way of completing life's journey but few can do it without screaming. Watch Ashok Kumar and Vyjayantimala doing the trick in "Sitaron se Aagey", a social theme.

With the Sun, Saturn, Venus and Mercury, all in the watery sign of Scorpio on the day, you have another Hamlet on hand—artistic but indecisive, a builder without bricks and a prodigal in romance. You have a problem child, Vinodrai.

A. L. SETHI (Khargpur)

Nehru can deliver a lecture for two hours. Can you?

I can tell the same thing in two minutes. But Nehru is an actor and he has to give a performance before his audience.

Will "Burning Words" be more delicious than "Grey Dust"?

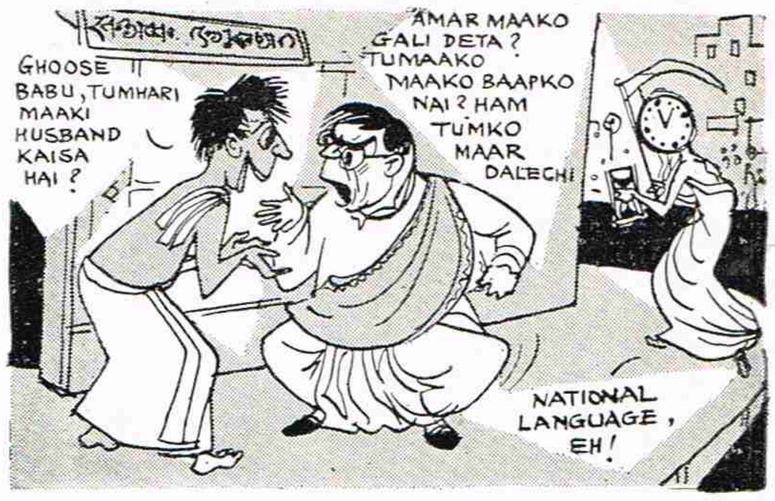
The book is a very interesting historical record. Don't miss the book. It is a "must" for your library.

Was Christ a Christian?

No. He was a Jew who preached love. The shadow of the wooden cross made him the first Christian in death.

When a Madrasi speaks in Hindi with a Bengali?

Time stops and turns round to hear the lingo.


GHOOSE !! BABU, TUMHARI MAAKI HUSBAND KAISA HAI ?
AMAR MAAKO GALI DETA ? TUMAAKO MAAKO BAAPKO NAI ? HAM TUMKO MAAR DALEGHI
NATIONAL LANGUAGE, EH!

ROOP H. KALYANI (Calcutta)

Virgin.....?

A fast disappearing species among the female mammalian bipeds.

Define the term "private prostitute"?

That is a device to secure deficit finance in the private sector of a community project.

R. THIRUNARAYANA (Madras)

After V. K. Krishna Menon who will fill his place?

India will never be short of Menons and mosquitoes.

B. SUBBA RAO (Bombay)

You prefer 'murgha' or 'murghi'?

I have a weakness for the female of everything I see.

You seem to be thinking yourself wittier than Shaw?

I am because I have been making a living in a hungry and illiterate country. It is very difficult to make people laugh in our country.

How are you affected by ancient wells?

I see white-robed Parsis around them. That is a ghostly vision.

Is it popularity that you are after?

No. Only sales.

Why don't you preach against womanising?

Prize Winners For June

1st Prize to Jagdish Jain (Delhi); 2nd Prize to Raj A. Chhugani (Jullundur); 3rd Prize to M. S. Visvanathan (Poona); 4th Prize to T. A. Ramanathan (Calcutta) and 10 consolation prizes to the following:— K. Rama Rao (Shimoga); Y. K. Kattimani (Bijapur); Roop H. Kalyani (Calcutta); Prem P. Malik (Bahadurgarh); K. T. Gopinath (Tellicherry); K. Syamala (Waltair); Harilal (Fiji); Narayan R. Sant (Kampala); Miss Asha Rana (Banda) and R. Seshadri (Madras). Money orders and copies are being sent to all the prize winners.

Armed and ready for the battle of wits. Shakila brings new thrills to the screen in "Rupkumari", a romantic tale.

It is a manly pastime in our Panchashila park.

S. R. EASWARI (Calcutta)

What is the use of brassieres?

They make Jaimini Roy's paintings look like Ajanta frescoes.

SATYA PRAKASH (Meerut)

How far has the Education Ministry been successful under the able leadership of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad?

India is the second most illiterate country in the world, (82.1%) the first being Haiti (89.4%). In another five years, the Maulana will beat Haiti.

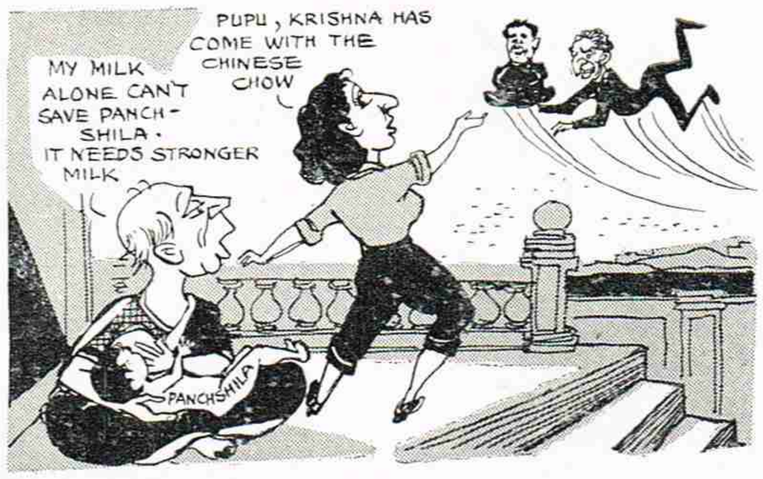
Mr. C. D. Deshmukh has many times threatened to resign from Nehru's Cabinet but he still sticks to his job. Why so?

The Tatas have not given him a firm offer yet. They probably want their income tax case to be settled first.

N. SUNDARARAMAN (Madras)

Congressmen say that we are in Ram Rajya. Who is our Hanuman?

Don't you like Krishna Menon?



H. B. PATIL (Koppal)

Prohibition Act in the Bombay State has done nothing else but filled the purses of police officers?

At least in some quarters the standard of living has gone up. Our policemen deserve the profits of prohibition seeing that they face the risks of linguistic riots.

What has G. B. Shaw left behind?

A fortune for the State.

P. H. S. MANI (Anantapur)

Who is more beautiful between Madubala and Suchitra Sen?

Madhubala is younger and more attractive.

JAGDISH JAIN (Delhi)

What was there in "Seven Year Itch"?

A 21-year-old bitch.

Has Ananthasayanam Ayyangar substituted Shri Mavlankar for Speakership?

He has crowded the place.

Are "apsaras" virgins?

No. That is Lord Indra's junk.

Why does Maulana Azad express his inability to occupy the seat of presidentship after the coming elections?

A harmless post, however great, does not appeal to a political-minded Muslim.

J. B. WILLIAM (Bangalore)

What is the type of work the managing editors do?

They graciously accept the praise for the work of others and attend lunches and dinners.

Sindhis in Bangalore speak Tamil?

So do food and profits.

T. ADVANI (Bombay)

Is it wise for an Indian actress to become a mother?

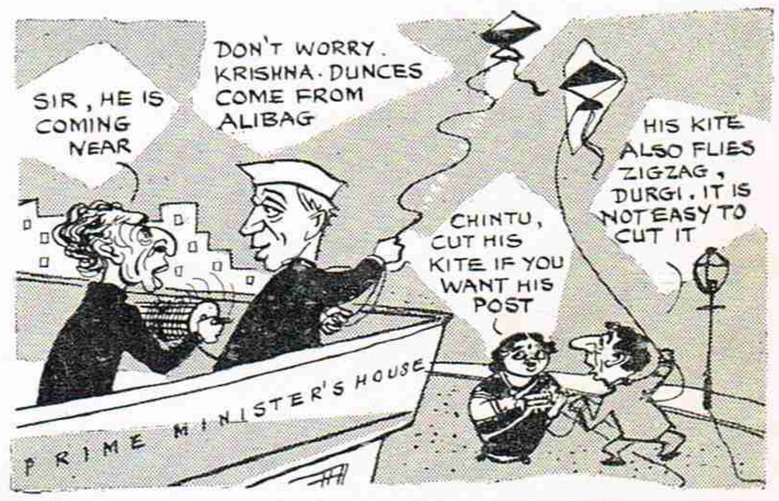
Yes, if she can name the child's father correctly.

So our First Five-Year Plan was a thumping success?

Yes, all Nehrus and Menons are over employed.

After Deshmukh, what?

Nothing. No one will miss him and we'll get a man who won't fly the kite so often.


SIR, HE IS COMING NEAR
DON'T WORRY. KRISHNA. DUNCES COME FROM ALIBAG
CHINTU, CUT HIS KITE IF YOU WANT HIS POST
HIS KITE ALSO FLIES ZIGZAG, DURGI. IT IS NOT EASY TO CUT IT
PRIME MINISTER'S HOUSE

Rs. 300/- EVERY MONTH IN 14 PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded every month for questions which are considered interesting or elicit interesting replies in the "Editor's Mail".

1st Prize: Rs. 100|-; 2nd Prize: Rs. 50|-; 3rd Prize: Rs. 30|-; 4th Prize: Rs. 20|- and 10 Consolation Prizes of one copy of "Grey Dust", each worth Rs. 10|-.

A reader can ask as many questions as he likes but those letters which bear the Priority Coupon will be answered first. A reader gets three coupons free per copy and he has therefore the chance to catch the bus thrice every month. Questions should be neatly written, or typed if possible, with some blank space left between two questions. It is in this blank space that the editor writes his replies. Unless the letters are signed they won't be considered.

In awarding prizes, the editor's decision shall be final and absolutely binding and no correspondence will be entertained about the distribution of the prizes.

The names of the prize-winners will be announced in "filmindia" every month and the prize money will be remitted by money order while the copies of "Grey Dust" will be sent by registered post.

Cut the coupons below and fix them to your questions if you want to be answered quickly.

1 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE JUNE 1956

2 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE JUNE 1956

3 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE JUNE 1956

When a woman challenges, the world sees new angles of the old romantic triangle. Nimmi brings new desire to the screen in "Bhai Bhai", a thrilling entertainer produced by AVM.

CHARACTER OF NEHRU'S GOVERNMENT

A nation's character is dearer than its ambitions, dearer than its very life. Character, in truth, is the nation. Whatever we are going to be in future—democratic, socialist or communist—character must be the sheet anchor of our destiny.

This section is the monopoly of "JUDAS" and he writes what he likes and about things which he likes. The views expressed here are not necessarily ours, but they carry weight because they are written by a man who knows his job.

And in a newly free nation like India, which is fast nationalising one industry after another, the character of the rulers shall mainly decide the destiny of the people. And the need for a definite national character is paramount particularly in departments of national finance and insurance where the only security people have from the government is its character.

Like individuals a nation has also to express its character primarily by keeping the promises it makes to individuals, groups or institutions. Behind a government promissory note there is the character and stability of the government. Round this character and stability revolves the social and economic life of the people. In our stock markets even gamblers gamble on the character and stability of government's promissory notes. Actually, therefore, a government needs character more than does an individual because character in a government lends stability to the government and stability in a government brings prosperity to millions of its citizens.

Character often begins with a promise made to another. On November 26, 1949, the day we, the people of India, solemnly adopted, enacted and gave to ourselves our first democratic Constitution, we also gave a promise, by Clause 314 of the constitution, to over 300 Officers of the Indian Civil Service that they shall be entitled to the same remuneration, leave, pension and other conditions of service, after August 15, 1947, as they enjoyed during the British regime.

That promise is a part and parcel of our Constitution. Why any group of State servants, even if they belonged to an angelic order, should at all be protected in this extraordinary manner in a democratic state is difficult to understand. But rightly or wrongly, the I.C.S. people have been protected in this manner. Our prison-stamped Congressmen became probably too conscious of their ignorance of administration and decided to secure the loyalty of trained administrators, as the members of the I.C.S. are, by promising them the same working conditions as they enjoyed previously and making this promise a part of our Constitution.

Whatever the reason, the promise stares at us from the pages of our Constitution and as such commands our respect and loyalty to it. That promise, as embedded in Clause 314, is the touchstone of our character as a people and as a nation—and even more so because it is given to a group of people who are employees of the State and as such have no remedy either against the State or the members of the ruling party in the case of a breach of faith.

But breach and blackmail seem to be the exact intentions of the prison-stamped Congressmen ruling the roost now. A newspaper report says that a few years ago, our self-righteous white-capped roosters suggested a voluntary cut in the salaries of the I.C.S. officers and quite

a few I.C.S. officers submitted to the silent and moral blackmail and agreed to suffer a cut in their salaries. This cut, they say, was subsequently restored, on what moral or immoral grounds, no one knows.

Once again, we are told, the Home Ministry has initiated proposals for a voluntary cut in the salary of the I.C.S. officers. A draft scheme, now under preparation, will be submitted to these officers for consideration.

As the members of the I.C.S. are protected under Article 314 of the Constitution, any cut in the salary will have to be voluntary. The saving to the exchequer from any such cut will not be large but the psychological effect of such a move is expected to be significant.

This is at once a fraud and a blackmail. Fraud because there is no volition of the employee in the so-called "voluntary" cut, a pattern for which is being woven (draft scheme) in the chambers of the Congress ministers and blackmail because the white-capped roosters seek to penalise a helpless group of State employees merely to create a "significant psychological effect" for party and political purposes.

This is breach of faith—pure and simple.

We are not in love with our I.C.S. officers—quite a few of whom have recently been tried and found guilty of fraud and corruption. We know a few of them too—rich through corruption—maintaining expensive Anglo-Indian mistresses in the city and living on rare caviare and wines.

No, we are not in love with the I.C.S. folks, nor with their wives, the new duchesses of our deficit-financed democracy. But we are certainly in love with ourselves as a people of this ancient land. And the first expression of our love for ourselves we wish to find in our character as a people.

We, the people of India, gave Clause 314 of our Constitution to our I.C.S. officers and in doing so gave them a solemn promise to keep faith with them through sun and rain. This promise involves the character and honesty of 360 million Indians, not to mention their heritage and traditions.

This promise cannot be embarrassed by a clique of self-righteous rulers whose ever-changing whims and notions are becoming the codes and canons of a helpless nation these days. These prison-stamped Congressmen have no right to deprive our poor people of their gentleman's character, their only wealth in this much-raped and much-robbed nation, and make them a party to their own crimes and conspiratorial party and political designs.

The promise given to the I.C.S. must be kept because it is the people's promise, being embedded in the Constitution. Our white-capped ministers, who make profits out of travelling allowances, have no right to blackmail our I.C.S. officers on merely psychological and political grounds. State servants cannot be victims of constantly changing party politics. If our country is to survive there must be stability in its administration. That stability is only possible by keeping our promises to our State employees.

She is warning and not calling for only one man as some film fans might choose to think. She is saying: stop, look, listen. That threatening finger is the red signal of danger. Meet Kamal in "Rupkumari", a love tale in costume.

If promises embedded in the Constitution are sought to be broken so easily what guarantee can there be behind the signatures on the currency notes, loan bonds and insurance policies issued by our Congress Government? Some day these white-capped Congressmen might ask our helpless widows to accept a "voluntary cut" in the payment of the life policies of their dead husbands.

This point is worth keeping in mind when Nehru asks us next time to contribute to a loan to feed his Five-Year Plans. We can turn round and ask him: "What is the guarantee, Nehruji, that we'll get our money back, seeing that you go back even on guarantees permanently embedded in the Constitution?"

And till this question is satisfactorily answered, our people must not buy life insurance policies from the State-controlled insurance companies. When the insurance companies were private-owned, the policy-holder could at least prosecute the directors of the companies for fraud or cheating. Who can be prosecuted now in nationalised insurance if a man or his widow is either denied payment of a policy or blackmailed into accepting

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Use PHILIPS PHOTOLAMPS "PHOTOFLUX" and "PHOTOLITA"

a "voluntary cut" to create a "significant psychological effect" for party purposes?

After all an insurance policy signed by a Rajagopalan or Radhakrishnan is a mere scrap of paper in comparison with our sovereign Constitution given to ourselves by 360 million people.

PARSIS CORRUPT OUR CULTURE

Reader Firoze Khan of Bombay is angry. He is angry because he is disgusted. He says,

"The Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan is an Indian institution, conceived and founded by Shri K. M. Munshi, with the lofty objectives of "translating the heritage and mission of India into life and re-integrating Arya Dharma to suit modern times". The Kala Kendra is one of the off-shoots of this august institution, which is in charge of preparing and presenting dramas, dance ballets, etc., which of course are supposed to represent Indian culture at its best. But when we consider some of the men who are behind this Kendra and the ideas they exhibit in their work, we feel that the Bhavan is not at all on its way to fulfil its highly cherished ideals.

"One of the dramas which this Kala Kendra has been staging for a long time now, is "Piroja Bhavan". Written and directed by Adi Marzban, this play about a Parsi family is an unashamed propagation of Western culture and way of life, with all the tinsel glamour and shallow outlook that usually accompany it. Now if this drama had been produced by some Parsis and staged in some petty hall, nobody would have even bothered to waste the precious space of "Filmindia" to criticize it. We have more or less come to accept the Parsis as an anachronistic community of modern India, which is desperately clinging to a fast-decaying social and political order. And nobody even troubles to look into their activities, which are mostly of a communal nature. But when this Parsi pot-pourri has the paternal pat of the Kala Kendra, is staged under the aegis of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, is also awarded a gold medal and is above all visited by our Chief Purity Minister Shri Morarji Desai, one cannot help sitting up and taking notice.

"Now let us see whether "Piroja Bhavan" renders any imaginable service to our country or even to the small community it attempts to depict. It is all about a "misguided" Parsi family consisting of an Americanised "daddy", a Westernised "mummy", a pretty daughter and her fiance, giving up the life of clubs and gymkhanas and settling down in a quaint house in the country-side. The daughter Ruby is a typically representative Parsi girl, a product of Hollywood-brand Western culture. The dresses she wears make our Gujerati girls blush, as they are designed to expose her body rather than cover it. How these jeans and slacks of Western culture can be integrated with our ancient heritage of the "sari", is a problem that is best left to be solved by the honourable Munshi couple, whose dream-baby the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan is.

"So when a couple drops in on the family on a storm-struck evening, the daughter wastes no time in falling

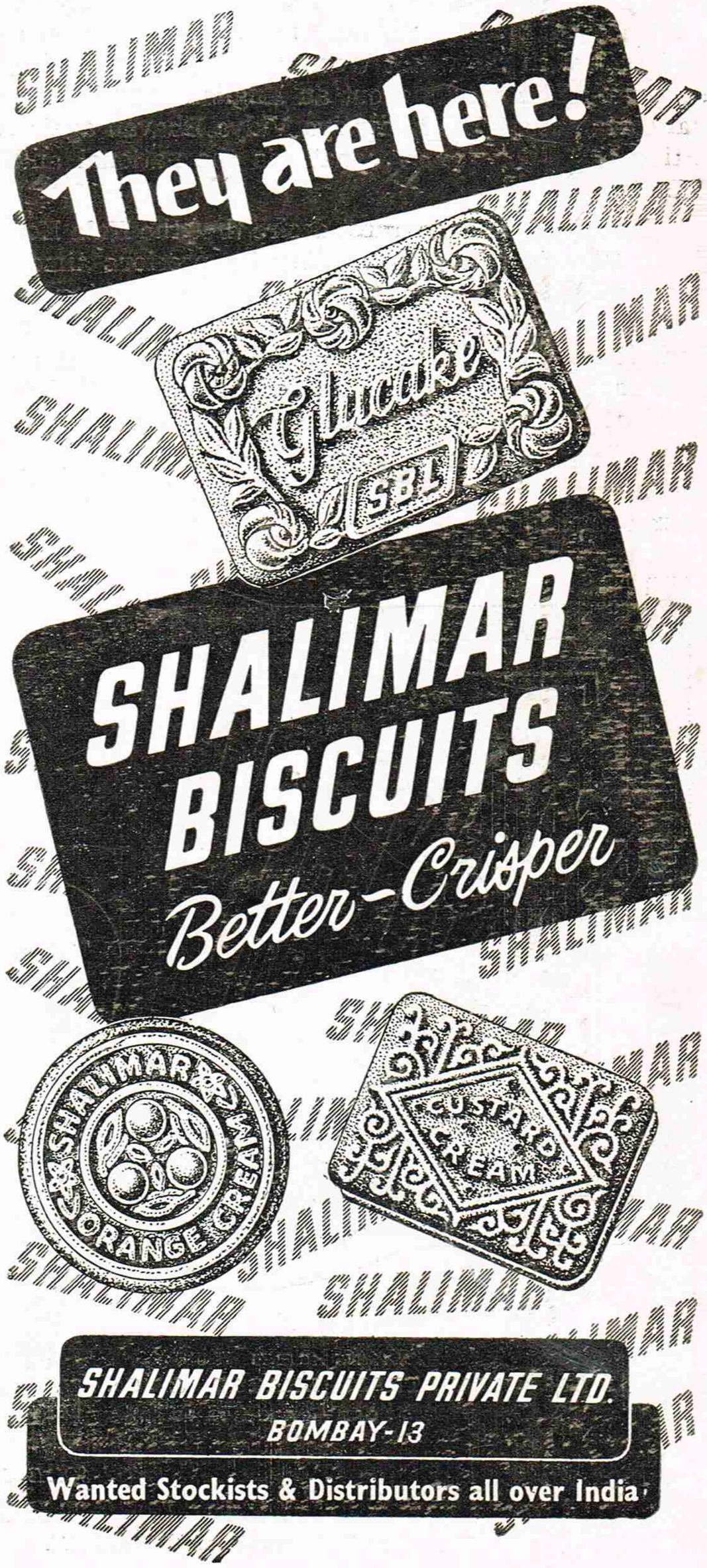
straightaway for the married man, a-la Hollywood, jilting her poor innocent lover, who is left in the lurch without any fault of his own. Now Ruby and Jimmy splash the whole country-side with their illicit romance, while Jimmy's lawful wife mildly protests about it to Ruby's mother, who however is too Western-minded "to interfere into the private affairs of her children". Finally, it is all tided over as a "passing fancy", with Ruby crying "Oh leave me alone!" exactly in the fashion of the Ritas and Rosemarys of Hollywood.

"The other characters in the play provide some more specimens of hybrid Parsi culture. The party that comes to spend a week-end at the house is a group of young hoodlums without the slightest sense of decency or morality. Clad in bush-shirts and jeans this odd crowd disgusts one with its cat-calls and loud behaviour. Then there is the mischievous boy, a product of the divorce-proceedings of the housewife's sister, which is an indirect suggestion for another Parsi family that must have gone to the rocks. The elderly uncle who could have acted as one corrective factor in this obnoxious medley, is also depicted as a sex-starved old scoundrel, "more crooked than a corkscrew", whose firm belief it is that "all men over 40 must inevitably prey upon other women". And we thought that our ancient Indian culture taught that men after 40 become resigned to the attachments of the world, according to the ideal of "vanaprasth".

"Apart from this moral bankruptcy, the overall impression that one would gather from the play about the Parsis is, that they are blissfully ignorant of Indian history, that they suffer from an inveterate snobbery arising from the myth of a superior community, that they have a contempt for labour and the working classes. It is nauseating to watch the mother and daughter lording over and scolding their poor "ayah". Now, does all this filth of Adi's "Bhavan" agree with the objectives laid down for Munshi's "Bhavan"? Speaking on the occasion of the 17th Foundation Day celebration of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Shri K. M. Munshi had delineated the following as the chief objectives of the Bhavan: (1) To accept the Moral Order as the over-arching law of life (2) To assert and respect the dignity of man. And Munshiji had also added: "We can only forget these fundamentals at our peril".

"The whole play is sprinkled with jokes that are decidedly in bad taste and which if presented in an Indian film would have been unanimously condemned. As the buffalo in the neighbourhood is about to give birth to her young ones, the Parsi husband asks his wife if she would not give credit to the Almighty for this unique feat of nature, whereupon the wife blatantly replies that she would give the full credit to the ox. Now if an unfortunate film producer had conceived of such a crack for his film, it would have made the censors jump and would have set Smt. Lilavati Munshi running to the Lok Sabha to advocate stricter censorship of vulgar films. The play is written in a raw slang language; but then it has the audacity to ridicule other languages like Marathi. The Parsis forget that they are the ones without a proper language. Although the play is supposed to be in Gujerati, the language of the play is more like a cancer-ridden corpse of Gujerati stuffed up with 50% of English and American words.

"The playwright reveals a deplorable lack of understanding of the gigantic problems of nation-building and even ventures to sling some puerile satire on the great ex-



periments of socialism and Bhoodan that are being undertaken in the country. The socialist-minded old purist and his khadi-clad wife are presented as two ridiculous figures, trying in vain to get people interested in sharing and sharing alike their property with the "have-nots". Then again the Hindu Gunvantrai is presented as the tyrant who keeps on harassing the Parsis till he is cowed into submission by a clever ruse. Now could the tyrant not have been a Parsi neighbour? The final defeat of the "cowardly Hindu" by the "war-like Parsis" gives rise to an unnecessary feeling of communal hatred in a community which is already suffering from the malaise of communalism. It all ends with the whole Westernised gang gathering on the stage and screeching out an English song before the final curtain-drop, the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan again forgetting that "jana gana mana" is the national anthem of India.

"Finally, it is our earnest desire that the Kala Kendra of the Bhavan will stop wasting its precious time and money with the Parsis and start doing something really constructive and cultural to live up to the great ideals for which it has been founded: viz. "to encourage the study of all aspects of Indian culture and to aid the study and spread of the fundamentals of Aryan culture"."

We can hardly improve on Firoze Khan beyond commending what he says to the serious attention of our cultural Munshis.

TAILOR MILAGRES TALKS

Our tailor Milagres F. Dias is evidently not happy merely sewing buttons on his customers' trousers and making a fortune out of it. He wants to be heard and noticed. And why should our good old Milagres not be heard seeing that almost every white-capsuled scoundrel these days takes a bow in the newspapers either as a delegate to Timbuctoo or as a man of the week who helped the taxpayer to sink his hard-earned money in a dry tube well.

Tailor Milagres has evidently been pacing the corridors of our civil courts in trying to recover his dues from some bad customers, for Tailor Milagres is angry with the irksome delays of our civil courts. Had the judge noticed our decorously-dressed tailor pacing the corridor of his court with officious impatience and realized that the time he wasted in counting the steps could have well been utilized in putting stitches, Milagres' case would have been immediately called. But our judges are old and blind and so tired of trying to be just in an unjust world that they cannot see an angry litigant even if he is put in a wedding dress and brought to court on a tonga horse.

In normal surroundings Tailor Milagres would jump into anyone's eye. His fine rimless glasses make Milagres' fat and fair face look almost scholarly. Then he has a broad and bland smile, developed for his Parsi customers, which many of his sick customers now use as an ulcer diet. Milagres rarely talks. When his good old father

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That is the equipment of modern manhood—a banjo, a jazz step and a dozen giggling girls—all set and crazy to sweat in a mad whirl. This is the youth with which Nehru hopes to build a great nation. Watch the antics of Kishore Kumar in "New Delhi", a thrilling entertainer.

lived, he seemed to have put a few stitches on Milagres' lips and in doing so made his son look at once wise and intelligent. The illusion lasted as long as the old man lived.

Not knowing the Jewish proverb that an angry man is not a wise man, Tailor Milagres being a strict Roman Catholic, Milagres lost his temper in the corridors of our civil courts and came home and wrote a letter to the "Times of India", a paper in which he spends quite a few thousands of rupees every year in advertising his firm A. R. Dias & Bros.

In the letter Tailor Milagres wants "a few changes in the judicial procedure" with which he feels "the irksome delays can be reduced enormously". By "enormously" Milagres means considerably.

And Tailor Milagres gives a list of his own changes as follows: "The authorities should appoint additional judges, charge higher court fees for priority cases, applications for postponements should be charged on a scale commensurate with the number of days sought and hearing dates should be allocated either for morning or afternoon sessions so that the litigants' time is not wasted."

Tailor Milagres wants justice to be turned into a tailor's business—more tailors for more orders, higher stitching charges for urgent orders, and different dresses for different sessions. We told you that Tailor Milagres was hurt pacing the corridor of the court for hours and you cannot hurt a prosperous Goan without making him red in the face and crazy in the head. Tailor Milagres has at least shown us a small mercy by not referring the matter to Salazar of Portugal.

But our Tailor Milagres is not merely a keen businessman who would buy justice quickly and walk out of the court without a second look at the damn judge. He is also a sportsman and a keen racing man at that. For he says further, "To increase efficiency, loud-speakers should be installed with microphones for the use of the judge, the lawyers and the litigants. The number of cases going on should be displayed prominently in large characters outside the court room and below it the case to follow."

What Tailor Milagres inadvertently forgot was a provision for the "jockeys" of law to be mentioned below the cases as they do on the racecourse. The winning cases and their dividends would naturally follow with a compromise described as a dead heat.

Tailor Milagres has evidently removed the stitches which his wise old father had put on his lips to make him look at once wise and intelligent. With the stitches gone, Tailor Milagres wants our court of justice to look like a racecourse.

And this is the man whom the Government of Bombay have appointed as a Justice of Peace and an Honorary Presidency Magistrate. Who deserves the other more is left to the imagination of our readers.

NEHRU'S MIRAGE OF SOCIALISM

Nehru's Government is perhaps the biggest sanctimonious humbug that ever existed anywhere in the world. The world has seen many fascist and totalitarian governments and also many more democratic and socialist ones. But nowhere in the world can you find an unholy amal-

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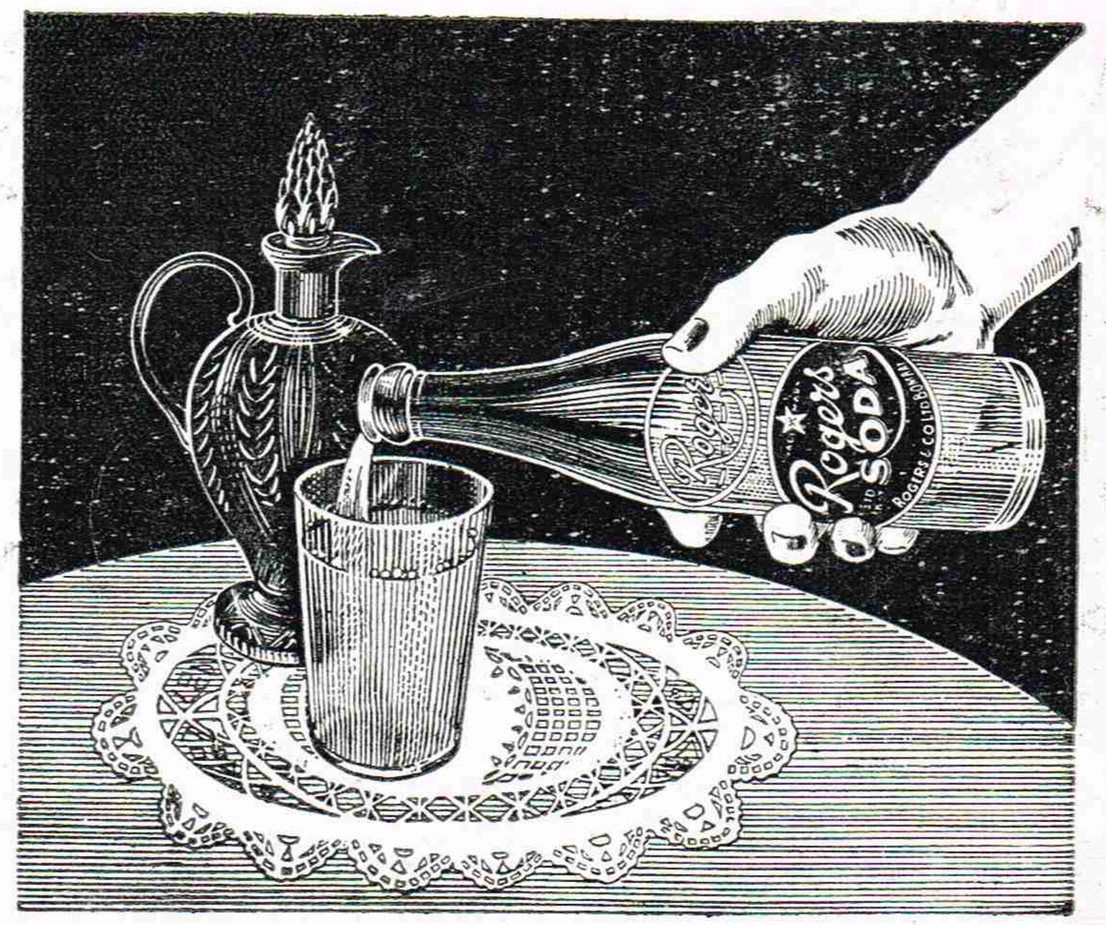

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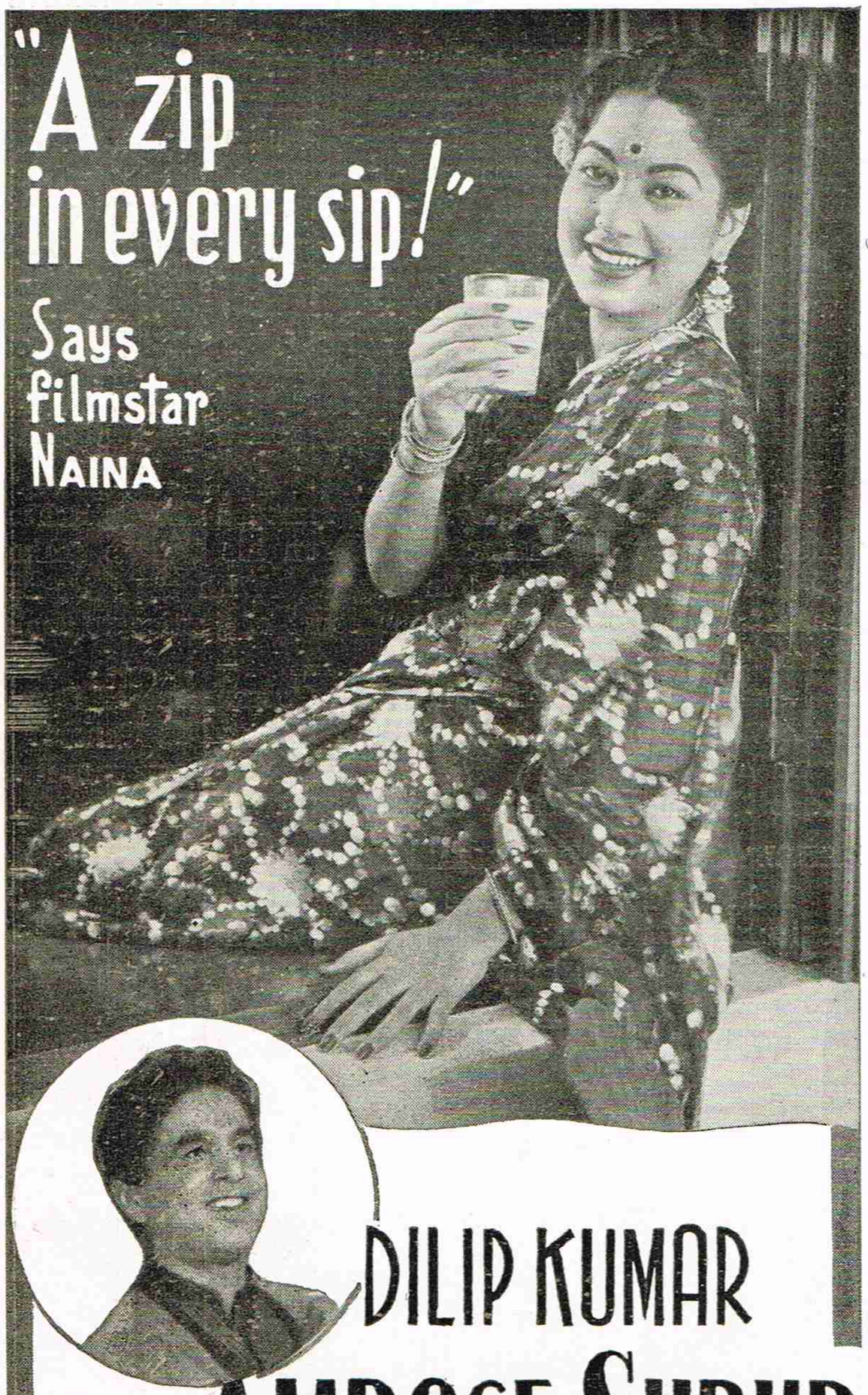
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gam of all these with a generous sprinkling of self-righteousness and a sadistic delight in squeezing the last trace of freedom out of the individual. For that you must come to India, a country tantalizingly called a Welfare State by a sadistic and frustrated group of power-crazy politicians wearing white caps of humbug and hypocrisy.

In this Welfare State, there is one law for the rulers and another one for the ruled. Very recently Nehru's Government, in its pursuit of the oasis of a socialistic pattern of society, passed the new Companies Act under which relatives of the directors of joint stock companies cannot hold sinecures and offices of profit without disclosing their relationships and without obtaining the sanction of the shareholders in a general meeting. There are the usual penalties prescribed in the event of this being not done.

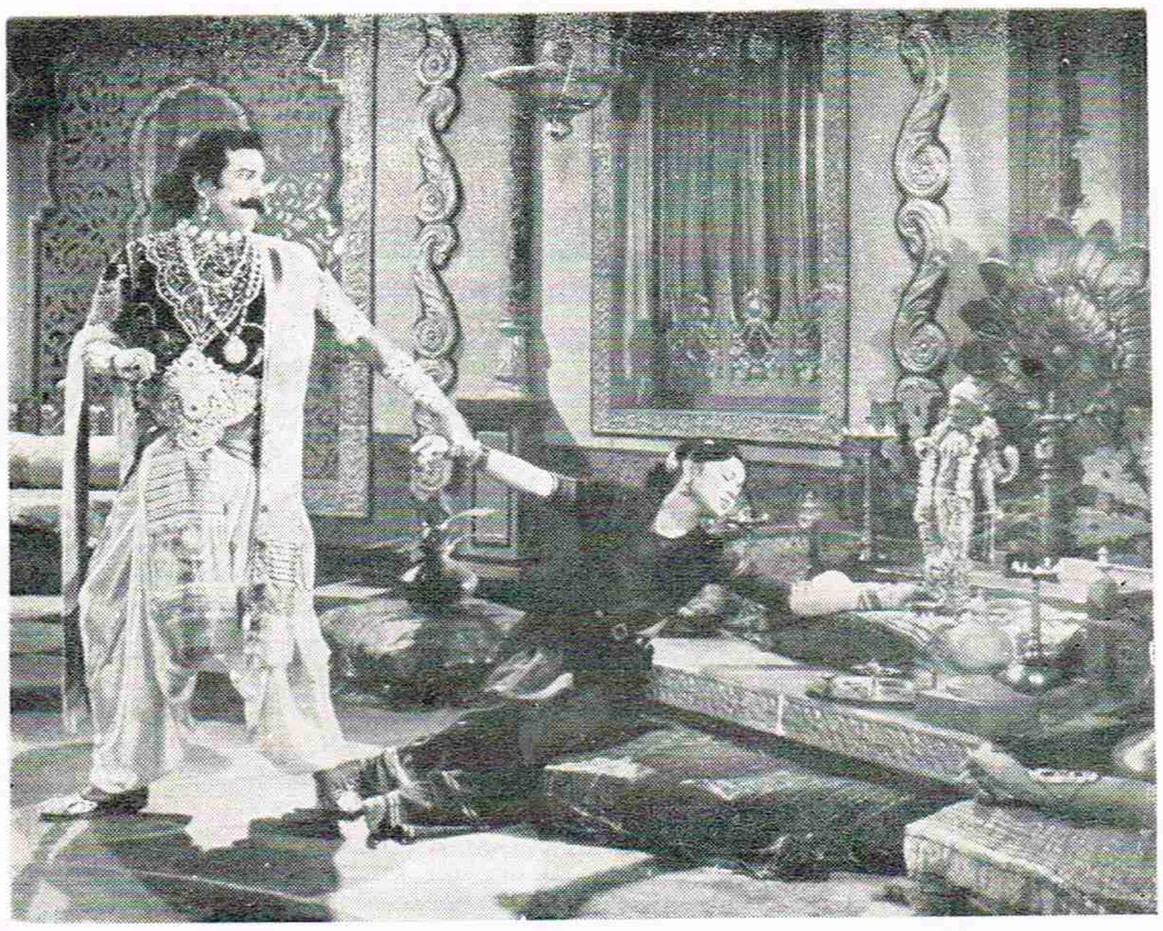
This provision in the Act is intended to give to the affairs of all joint stock companies a little sunlight so as to kill the parasites and to improve the health of the main body. It is intended to bring all sinecures above the table within view of every shareholder of a company. The Government feels that anything exposed to sunlight wilts with shame and disgrace and in the course of time automatically disappears. It will soon discover to its great disappointment that in the joint stock companies there are many orchids which can stand a lot of sunshine without any apparent feeding and yet survive to blossom in another season.

All that apart, we agree with the Government that a revision of the Companies Act was overdue as the old Act was mercilessly misused by our vested interests to exploit the shareholders most heartlessly. The crimes of our company promoters became so bold and glaring that the Government was left with no choice but to rush a drastic law.

The new law is well deserved and so is the moral purpose behind it well-aimed. The new Companies Act will clean up quite a few cobwebs from our private sector and within a few years we shall probably have a better generation of businessmen.

But we shall still be saddled with corrupt officers in the public sector and probably with equally corrupt ministers in our different cabinets. That we are blessed with a large number of these already can be seen from the various cases and convictions in which government officers featured prominently in recent years.

The highly moral principle which inspired the Government of our Welfare State to pass the new Companies Act can be extended a little further to the public sector and our Ministers and Government servants may be asked to disclose the names of their relatives enjoying state patronage either by way of an office or an interest in some state contract. The next step would be to get these disclosures ratified either by Parliament or by the State Assemblies, where representatives of the shareholders of the nation meet. Doing so will not only give a better moral tone to our white-capsuled government but also



Women were so religious in olden days that they had to be dragged away from the family altar. Now they have to be wooed away from the card table to give the family bedroom some purpose. The way Tripathi is handling Nirupa he seems to be making a good job of it in "Sati Nagkanya", an old tale of eternal virtue.

hasten our journey towards the oasis of a Welfare State with a socialistic pattern of society.

But Nehru's Government will never do this because a list of relatives for a measure like this will have to be opened with Nehru's own relatives in the Ministry of External Affairs—our department of international plums. And in a regime like Nehru's you cannot count his relatives without losing your head.

And that is why we describe Nehru's Government as the biggest sanctimonious humbug of the world. It expects all the morality from the people but little from its own administrators. We shall therefore never reach the oasis of a socialistic pattern of society. That oasis will always be a mirage.

YOU'LL HARDLY BELIEVE —

THAT while refusing a prayer for his soul by a member of Rajya Sabha, Dr. Ambedkar said, "I have no soul. I am a Buddhist. No one need take the trouble of praying for my soul. I do not believe in God and I have no soul. I have spared you that trouble." Well, we are not worried about Ambedkar's soul. In politics you can buy and barter souls. What is worrying us is that God has become an orphan now that Ambedkar has disowned him.

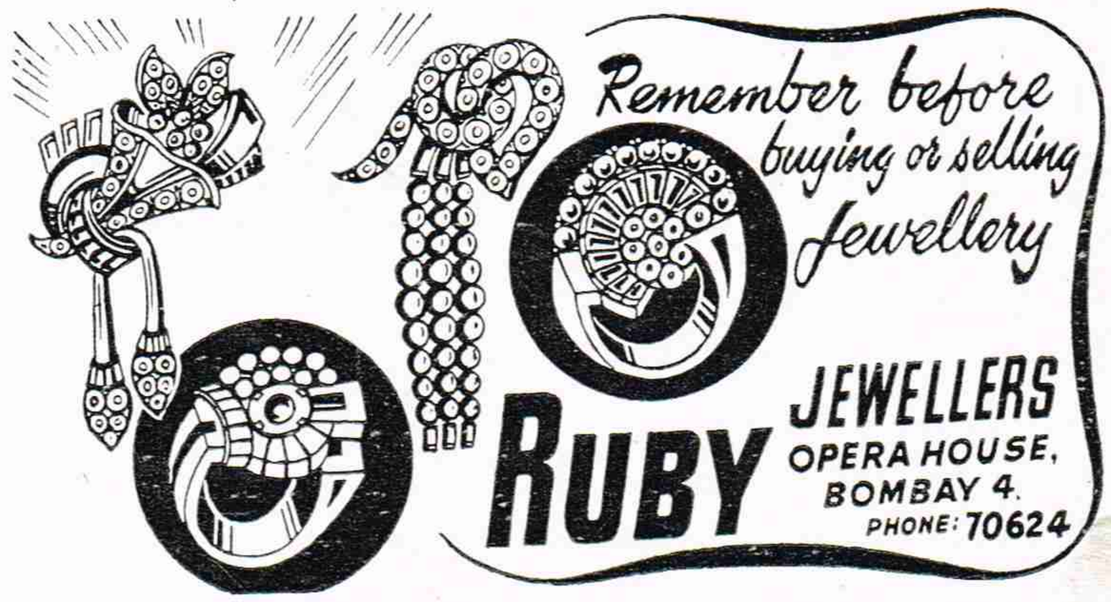
THAT the Hyderabad State Government not being in the news for some time wanted to do something different. So it gave Rs. 150|- to Yeshoda to buy a cow to give milk to the triplets Yeshoda brought into the world. What the Government did not know was that while you can buy three children with Rs. 150|-, you can't get a cow for that money.

THAT in our white-capsuled "Welfare" State the elections of two finance ministers were held void. Finance Minister Brij Sunder Sharma of Rajasthan was found "guilty of corrupt practices" and was disqualified "from holding membership of Parliament and of legislature of every state for a period of six years and also from voting at any election for a similar period". Finance Minister Brij Lal Biyani of Madhya Pradesh was found guilty of "corrupt practices of bribery and undue influence resorted to by and on behalf of Mr. Biyani". What names! One Brij Sunder and the other Brij Lal! Probably descendants of Lord Krishna! Both Finance Ministers of Congress Ram Rajya! Wonder whether the currency notes which the Congress Government circulates are genuine or not.

THAT finding no one taking to Dhebar, the Chaplin-moustached Congress President, in one desperate attempt to make him popular anyhow, Dhebar's face has been printed on matchboxes with his biography on the other side. The biography reads, "From a dispatch clerk to a Congress President aptly describes the career of Mr. U. N. Dhebar. Born of a poor family on 21-9-1905, he is the chief architect of the present Saurashtra State where he integrated 222 states and carried out far reaching reforms." Had Dhebar remained a dispatch clerk, the sale of the matchboxes at least would not have fallen.

THAT Dinkerrao Dudhwalla, Bombay's Milk and Education Minister, while inaugurating the Girls' Division of the National Cadet Corps at his milk shop in Aarey looked at the girls and said, "We as a nation are becoming too soft; a little hardy life is essential." Had the girls worn uplift brassieres Dinkerrao Dudhwalla would have talked of non-violence and co-existence. But the girls probably wanted to be in sympathy with the buffaloes of the Aarey Milk Colony and decided to keep a part of their war equipment at home for the day.

THAT seeing sky-clad Sadhus rushing towards Congress ministers and forming associations, the beggars of Indore also held a conference of their own and drew up some recommendations to end beggary in the State. They now want the Madhya Bharat Government to give them jobs and lands to rehabilitate themselves. These beggars



do not know that Madhya Bharat princes are also asking for jobs and lands.

THAT addressing a youth camp in Bihar, Ramcharitra Singh, Bihar's Irrigation Minister, said that the I.C.S. officers imagined themselves to be the real rulers of the country and busied themselves with many intrigues inside the secretariat. A man with that name, Ramcharitra, must be telling the truth. And Baburao Patel says we must keep faith with the I.C.S. folks in spite of their faithless wives.

THAT bearded Babu Purshottamdas Tandon while speaking in Lok Sabha on the Hindu Succession Bill warned the Congress that it "would founder and break into pieces on the rock of this measure". And he advised the Government to consult old women in Hindu families and not "Connaught Place butterflies" in such matters. The "butterflies" now want to pull out the old Babu's long beard but till they meet him face to face they have decided not to wear uplift brassieres to look like Tandon's "old women of Hindu families". Without brassieres they will look like ancient curios.

This is the usual triangular situation with one boy and two girls. The boy is Rehman and the girls are Shashikala and Asha Mathur. Together they create interesting complications in "Aakhri Kadam", a social story.

THAT while Keskar, the bald booby of Information and Broadcasting, thought that by photographing the Communist Congress at Palghat for his newsreels, he was spying on the Communists and showing them for what they are to the people, P. C. Joshi and his gangsters threw a grand party to celebrate the event saying that millions of Indians would now know that the Communists are a well organized and reliable political party whose Congresses and conferences are important events of the nation. That newsreel is going to bring a million votes less in the Congress ballot boxes in the next elections.

THAT white-capsuled non-violent Congressmen of Lucknow and Banaras seem to have decided to illustrate Panchshila, Nehru's contrivance for co-existence, these days. While in the Lucknow Legislative Assembly Congressmen abused each other and accused each other of moral turpitude, in Banaras the ex-secretary of the City Congress Committee put a lock on the office and refused to hand over charge to his successor. His successor, knowing of course that India manufactures Godrej locks, bought his own lock and put it over the lock of the ex-secretary and convened a meeting of non-violent Congressmen in the yard behind the office. God bless Gandhiji in heaven, the father of this non-violent brood.

THAT addressing the National Development Council Pandit Nehru said that we shall require a Third Five-Year Plan "to produce momentum" and be "self-propelled". We have not yet finished the first Five-Year Plan and Nehruji is already on the third producing momentum and getting himself self-propelled. Our old pigeon is dynamic.

THAT the five-month old Bhai-Bhai theatricals between the Bengalis and the Biharis over their merger into each other came to a sudden end when a white-capsuled

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angel lost a bye-election in Calcutta. Said the quick-smelling Dr. Roy, "Although one election like this may not be a clear indication of the will of the people on any such matter, we cannot ignore the verdict." That ends the "patriotic" embrace between two natural enemies and brings to an end an interlude of humbug and hypocrisy.

THAT Delhi, the capital of Nehru's kingdom, is an odd museum of the oddest things on earth. Apart from slums, jaundice, Brahma Prakash and Amrit "Cure", there is a Poor House, a recent inspection of which revealed 37 lunatic women in the women's ward. We wonder what they keep in the Lunatic Asylum then ?

THAT in Harda in Madhya Pradesh, a marriage could not take place because the bride's party served everything except tea to the "baratis" of the bridegroom. The bridegroom, who was a tea addict, felt the insult and refused to marry the bride. Tea is thus fast becoming a part of the dowry in our marriages and might soon attract the sadistic attention of our white-capsuled Congressmen who might call it a social evil and ban it.

THAT since Congress Secretary, S. N. Agarwal, dropped his Bania Agarwal and became a Brahmin—sounding Shriman Narayan, every damn name of every damn thing in India is being changed. To attract some tourist traffic of God-denying Buddhists, Congressmen now want to change Banaras into "Varanashi". Let us hope they don't change Nehru's name into Ashok and give him a Tishyarakshita in old age. Because the problem would be whom to name Tishyarakshita seeing the crowd of maids that surround our old Moghul.

THAT speaking at the Association of Anglo-Indians, Frank Anthony, the Anglo-Indian leader, classified the patronage received by the members of his community during the British days into three kinds: "influence", "tinfluence" (depending on one's wealth) and "skinfluence" (depending on the colour of the skin). Anthony forgot the "gininfluence" which contributed substantially to the increase of Anglo-Indian population.

THAT P. Govinda Menon, the white-washed Congress ex-Chief Minister of Travancore, now fancies himself to be a film star and certifies a soap which washes him clean and makes him smell good. A soap manufacturer who asks Congressmen to certify his soaps is heading for insolvency.

THAT in Dr. B. C. Roy's Calcutta, they have discovered "ghost" constables in the police. These "ghosts" appear only on the pay day every month and take home the tax-payers' money. Some of the "ghosts" are reported to be living in Pakistan. Oh, these emotional and imaginative Bengalis can do anything, the way they have kept the ghost of Netaji Bose still living.

THAT M. N. Govindan Nair, a M.P. from Travancore-Cochin, upset his colleagues in Lok Sabha unnecessarily by revealing a family secret when he said, "In our State (Travancore-Cochin), even ex-ministers are saying that it is not a crime to give and take bribes." We know this

Palmistry is a fascinating approach to a woman. In trying to tell her luck, the damn fool forgets to read his own. But that is precisely what is written in her palm—his fate. She is the potter and he the clay. It has been that way since the world began. Shakila and Kishore Kumar make a boisterous love team in "Begunah", a social entertainer.

since our darling Krishna Menon of Jeep Scandal fame also comes from the same State but Govindan Nair mustn't open his mouth and put his foot into it so clumsily.

THAT our Muslim Ministry of Education headed by that Arab, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, was recently described as "a sleeping beauty". That the man who committed this outrage is a 'kafir' named Vallatharas, Member of Parliament. Will Humayun Kabir make this man a Muslim soon?

THAT Appleby, the American administration apple, has been brought back again to India to set another crossword puzzle to our I.C.S. boobies, who have not yet digested Appleby's last apple-pie. That is so much less money in travelling allowances for I.C.S. wives.

THAT the whole town of Sholapur rushed to the local jail the other day when agonizing screams were heard coming from the jail. People wanted to break open the jail and rescue the prisoners as they thought that Morarji had introduced mediaeval methods of torturing prisoners. The jailor allowed a dozen representatives of the people to go in and find out for themselves why the prisoners were screaming in pain and agony. The prisoners were being

shown Keskar's documentaries produced by Bhownagary of Films Division.

THAT Shri A. A. Inamdar, President of the Greater Bombay Secondary Teachers' Association, thought he would express his gratitude more substantially to Raj Kapoor, Nargis and R.K. Films, for lending him their films for benefit shows, by giving Raj and Nargis a reception at the Taj Mahal Hotel. On the appointed day Inamdar and 35 members of the Teachers' Committee waited for Raj and Nargis—their guests of honour—for hours only to learn that Raj and Nargis had gone to Khandala. That is why we call Raj uneducated. A man who has no respect for teachers can hardly be called a man.

THAT the other day Music Director Anil Biswas took a neat advantage of the reputation of Bengalis for emo-

Bread has many elusive masks but whichever mask it wears, it tastes as sweet. Meet David, our superb character actor, wooing his bread as a professional drum-beater and striking thunder with his beat into the young and thirsty hearts of Nimmi and Kishore Kumar in "Bhai Bhai", an exciting picture produced by AVM.

tionalism. Seeing little Nimmi folding her hands correctly while praying for the "muhurt" shot of "Angulimala", a picture on Buddha's life, Anil ran up to her and squeezed her in an embrace. Result: three ribs bruised and the girl's faith in Bengalis rudely shaken.

That the now matronly-looking film actress, Usha Kiran, says that she celebrated her birthday on April 22 (she doesn't say which birthday) by spending all the 24 hours—through day and night—with her husband, a feat for which she rarely finds time. We are glad Usha is making every attempt to save the marriage.

THAT Producer-director Amiya Chakrabarty is reported to have got a mild heart attack when he heard that his new starlet, Shubha Khote, fell down in Poona and broke her leg. That made Mrs. Chakrabarty ask her husband a question, "Kya baat hai?". Amiya did not answer the question. He named his next picture "Kya Baat Hai" and asked Shubha Khote to star in it.

THAT one of the obsessions of our bedroom-eyed Bengali belle, Vijayalakshmi, is to see a child's innocent face first thing every morning on waking up. That is why she had married the Muslim Ata believing that Muslims were the quickest in giving children. But Ata proved quicker in giving a divorce. We suggest that Vijayalakshmi should try a Hindu manufacturer next time.

THAT actor Rajendra Kumar and Sunil Dutt, the two "sons" of "mother" Nargis in Mehboob's "Mother India" have got so used to calling Nargis "mummy" on the sets that they have now started clinging to her and asking her for sweets and chocolates. And "Papa" Raj not being there, "mummy" has to supply all the sweets to the "kids".

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MEENA KUMARI—

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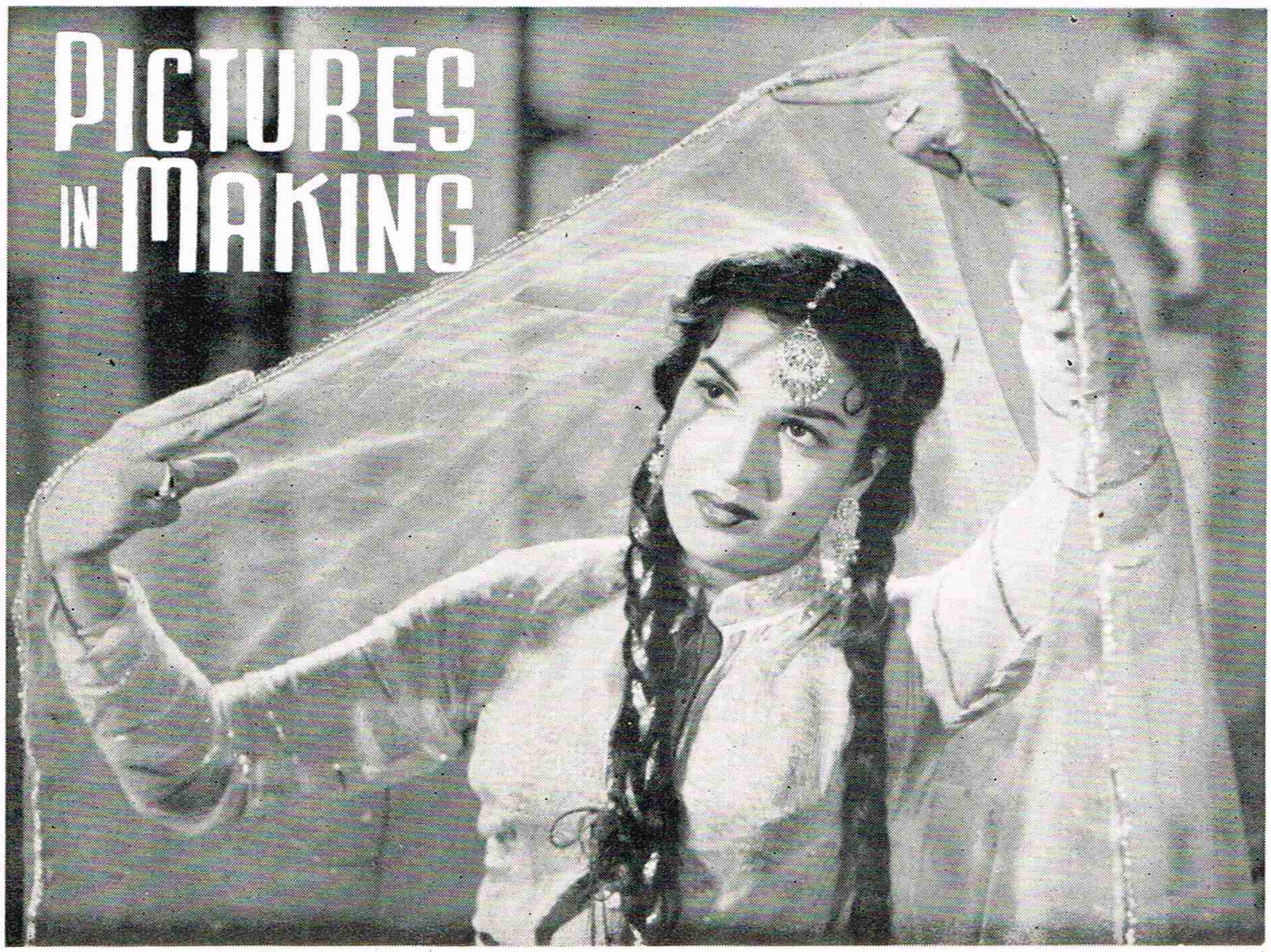
PICTURES IN MAKING



Dodging with the "dopatta" is an offensive move in the war of wits which women wage against men. Kamini Kaushal is an old warrior in this ancient game. She is at her best in "Aabroo", a social story.

AVM PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

Producer A. V. Meiyappan's "Bhai Bhai", starring Ashok Kumar, Kishore Kumar, Nimmi, Shyama and Nirupa Roy, is running to capacity houses at the local Roxy, Jai Hind and Rivoli and it looks as if the picture has settled down for a good, long run. In other towns also "Bhai Bhai" has met with tremendous success, thus satisfying in full measure the box-office dreams of its enterprising producer. Packed with a fast-moving story, lilting tunes and attractive dances, "Bhai Bhai" offers A1 entertainment to picturegoers and no wonder they have taken to it. The piece de resistance of "Bhai Bhai" directed by M. V. Raman is the dance number "Mera naam Abdul Rehman" beautifully put through by Nimmi and Kishore which brings repeat audiences to the theatres. Apart from the fact that two brothers in real life—Ashok and Kishore—play brothers on the screen, there are three pretty girls — Nimmi, Shyama and Nirupa Roy—to add to the interest of "Bhai Bhai". Others in the cast are Roop Kumar, David and Om Prakash. At the studios, "Chori Chori" starring Nargis and Raj Kapoor, is fast nearing completion. Producer A. V. Meiyappan's next subject is "Miss Mary", a comedy based on the Tamil box-office hit "Missiamma". The picture, the cast of which will be announced soon, is expected to go on the sets shortly.

KISHENDAS CHHABRA & CO. (Bombay)

Alankar Chitra's "Baarish" starring talented Nutan opposite Dev Anand and directed by Shanker Mukherjee has made rapid progress. Nutan's costumes in "Baarish" are typically Maharashtrian giving her a new, alluring personality while Dev Anand portrays a tough hero with a keen sense of justice championing the cause of the underdog. Music is by C. Ramchandra and lyrics are by Rajendra Krishan. Another under production by Gulshan Bahl of N. C. Films is "Changez Khan" depicting the life of the great Mongolian conqueror, Genghiz, and starring Bina Rai, Premnath and Sheikh Mukhtar.

AVM's "Bhai Bhai" Drawing Huge Crowds At Roxy — Mohan Segal's "New Delhi" Becomes A Human Drama—V. L. Narasu's "Sitaron Se Aagey" Fast Nearing Completion— Nargis In Mehboob's "Mother India" Acquires Two Sons—Arora's "Halaku" Contains An Exciting Story—Amarnath Teams Meenakumari And Kishore in "Naya Andaz."

JUPITER PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

Producer M. Somasundaram's "Naya Aadmi", directed by C. P. Dixit and starring Anjali Devi, N. T. Rama Rao, Jamuna, Ram Sharma, Anwar Hussein and others, was released in Bombay at the Liberty and Lamington on April 27. It is running well as it has good production values combined with the requisite entertainment by way of music and dances. Distributed by the Screens and Rajshri Pictures Private Ltd., "Naya Aadmi" has been appreciated all over India particularly in big cities like Delhi and Calcutta and is a proved success.

NARASU STUDIOS LTD. (Madras)

Quite a few reels of Producer V. L. Narasu's "Sitaron Se Aagey", a story of love and pathos, directed by Gyan Mukherji, has been canned. Starring the popular romantic team Ashok Kumar and Vyjayantimala and supported by Johnny Walker, Jagdish Sethi and Raja Sulochana, "Sitaron Se Aagey" is V. L. Narasu's first Hindi venture and as such is being produced on the most lavish scale conceivable. K. H. Kapadia is in charge of photography. Some of the tunes by maestro S. D. Burman are reported to be extremely pleasant.

M. TARACHAND (Bombay)

This new firm of distributors seems to have got the pick of the pictures for the year 1956. Many of them are potential box-office hits containing as they do top stars and popular directors of the industry. The impressive list includes "Malika" starring Shakila, "Sabse Bada Rupaiya" starring Shashikala and Agha, "Garma Garam" starring Agha, Nadira, Gope and Bhagwan, "Aatish" starring the most popular actor of the screen—Dilip Kumar—with direction by Gyan Mukherji, "New Delhi" starring Kishore and Vyjayantimala and directed by Mohan Segal, "Talaash" starring Bina Rai and Ashok Kumar and "Delhi ka Thug" starring Nargis and Raj Kapoor.

ALL INDIA PICTURES (Bombay)

While some producers work at a snail's pace taking years to complete one picture, Producer P. N. Arora has that rare attribute of combining speed with quality and turning out motion pictures in record time. The new one that is absorbing Arora's interest these days is called "Halaku", a rather odd name perhaps but exciting nevertheless. "Halaku", a tale of romance, intrigue and adventure, centring round Halaku, the grandson of Genghiz Khan, was released at the Naaz, Bombay on May 25. The star cast is led by Meena

Kumari, Ajit, Veena and Pran and directed by D. D. Kashyap. Meanwhile director M. Sadiq has completed a good bit of "Anjaan" starring Vyjayantimala opposite Pradeep Kumar supported by Jeevan and Johnny Walker. Hemant Kumar is in charge of music. Yet another is "Neelofer", Producer Arora's production No. 20, which is being directed by Arora himself starring his favourite heroine Helen , Chitra, Nishi, Sunder and Suresh. With three girls in a row, "Neelofer" is bound to have plenty of sex appeal.

MEHBOOB PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

"Mother India", a breath-taking saga of Indian village life, produced and directed by veteran Mehboob, is shaping very well at the Mehboob Studios, Bandra. Starring Nargis in the title role, actor Raj Kumar as her husband and Sunil Dutt and Rajendra Kumar as her two grown-up sons, "Mother India" is a moving story with scores of incidents to tug at your heart-strings. Cameraman Faredoon Irani photographed some flood scenes recently and the whole effect is said to be realistic. "Mother India" in addition has lovely Gevacolor to portray the idyllic beauties of our traditional village life that has withstood the onslaughts of western civilization through centuries. Director Mehrish is working hard on "Paisa Hi Paisa" starring Kishore, Shakila, Mala Sinha and Zul Vellani.

RATAN JYOTI (Bombay)

"Sheikh Chilli", a hilarious comedy, starring Shyama and Mahipal and produced by well-known lyric and screenplay writer Pandit Indra and directed by Ramchandra Thakur, is scheduled for an early Bombay release. Though it is Pandit Indra's maiden venture, his twenty-year long experience of films has stood him in good stead and the picture is reported to have become good. Some of the tunes by Vinod are melodious. Pandit Indra is now busy with the preliminaries of his next social titled "Noor-e-Nazar" featuring Shyama, Mahipal, Sulochana, Kammo, Venus and Agha. This one will be directed by Gunjal with a musical score by Chitragupta.

K. AMARNATH PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director K. Amarnath is busy shooting "Naya Andaz" starring Meena Kumari, the 'sweetheart of millions', opposite Kishore, "the crown-prince of romance". This romantic tale has an equally able supporting cast consisting of Pran, Kum Kum, Johnny Walker, Jayant, Murad and Gope and plenty of choice situations to entertain picture-goers. K. Amarnath, who knows his job well, has a sure box-office touch that will bring the profits home with the release of this dance-musical drama.

A. K. MOVIES (Bombay)

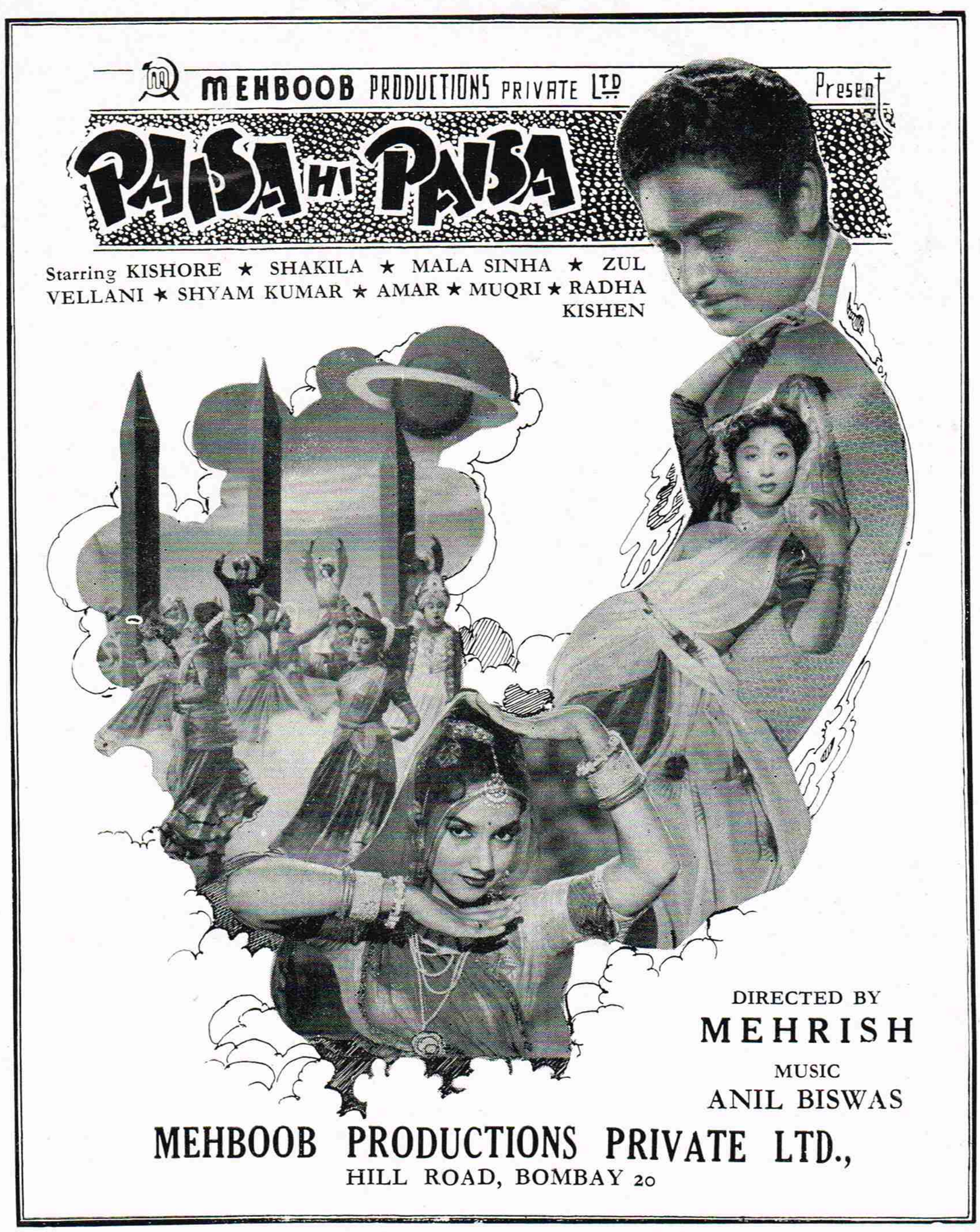
Nine reels of "Fitna", a musical comedy directed by Kuldip C. Kaher, are ready. "Fitna" brings together Suraiya and Karan Dewan after a long time, with Baby Naaz, Krishna Kumari, Ram Mohan, Baldev Mehta and Om Prakash lending suitable support. Lyrics composed by Sahir and Tanvir have been set to music by N. Dutta.

DE LUX FILMS (Bombay)

Hard-working and conscientious Producer-director Mohan Segal is sparing no pains to make "New Delhi" an outstanding picture of the year. Vyjayantimala, the Indian screen's vivacious bundle of sex and beauty, plays the heroine while Kishore is up to new tricks in "New Delhi". Others in the cast are Radhakishen, Mirza Musharaff, Nazir Hussein, Jabeen, Shivraj, etc. Lyrics written by Shailendra and Hasrat have been tuned by Shankar and Jaikishan. Some of the outdoor scenes of the picture were shot in "New Delhi" to make it authentic and attractive.

DAWLAT CORPORATION PRIVATE LTD. (Bombay)

This firm is known all over India and the world as distributors of 16 mm motion pictures--controlling over 200 features in addition to a number of travelogues, documentaries, etc., given either on hire or outright sale basis. Now comes the news that they have imported an automatic equipment from America which cleanses, washes, polishes and waxes 16 mm films without being touched by hand. This treatment, with specially imported chemicals, is reported to put new life into old films. Customers should, therefore, utilize this 'Maintenance and Preservation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CHITRA—

Women have an intense way of looking at the world. They are curious and yet suspicious. Chitra brings new charm to the screen in "Zindagi-ke-Mele", a romantic tale directed by K. B. Lall for Prem Pictures.

They aim well. Do they design equally well? A man, who tries to look inside a woman through her eyes, often sees nothing, for women's eyes rarely ventilate the soul. Padmini brings new romance to the screen in "Payal", a love tale which will thrill millions.

(*Continued from page* 39)

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GEMINI PICTURES CIRCUIT (Madras)

Directed by Pattana from a story by Mukharam Sharma, "Devta" is reported to contain a number of box-office ingredients that mark it as a certain hit. Some of the scenes of "Devta" are being shot now in Bombay. Starring Vyjayantimala, Gemini Ganeshan, Krishna Kumari, Anjali Devi, Bipin Gupta and Agha, "Devta" has a story that must appeal to everyone—from the simple-minded soul to the sophisticated intellectual—with spectacle, music and dance to punctuate the drama. Distributed by Gemini Pictures Circuit, "Devta" is another of the much-publicized pictures coming from the south.

DESAI FILMS (Bombay)

"Yahudi Ki Beti", starring Anita Guha, Diljeet, Tabassum and others and produced and directed by Nanubhai Vakil, was released during May in Bengal, C.P.C.I., Delhi and U.P. circuits where it is doing good business.

RUPKAMAL CHITRA (Bombay)

Produced by Mahipatray Shah and Anupchand and directed by Narindra Suri, "Begunah" has made rapid progress at the Mohan Studios. Starring Kishore and Shakila, "Begunah" is said to be a bold story of a young couple who were trapped and terrified by a gang.

MUKTI FILMS (Bombay)

"Sati Nagkanya", a mythological starring Nirupa Roy, Manhar Desai, is more than half-way through at the Basant Studios. Produced by Subash Desai and directed by Babubhai Mistry, "Sati Nagkanya" is likely to do well at the box-offices because of its popular story. The supporting cast consists of S. N. Tripathi, Indira Bansal and Babu Raje.

BASU CHITRA MANDIR (Bombay)

Producer-director Satyen Bose who gave us memorable pictures like "Jagriti", "Bandish" and "Parichay" has begun work on "Savera" starring Ashok Kumar and Madhubala and supported by Bengali comedian Bhanu Banerji. In "Savera", Ashok is cast in the role of a tough taxi driver, who moves heaven and earth to win the love of beauteous Madhubala.

DELIGHT PICTURES PRIVATE LTD. (Bombay)

Producer Chimanlal Trivedi's "Rupkumari", a sensational musical comedy, is ready for release. Two devotional pictures "Dev Danav" and "Raj Rani Meera" are now on the sets, the former being well on way to completion. Plans for the production of "Insan Mil Gaya" are being finalized. "Najma", a social starring Madhubala, Smriti Biswas, Ajit and Bhagwan, is awaiting release.

A. R. FILMS (Bombay)

Described as "a heart-warming human drama filled with music and dances" by those in the know of things, "Chand" has been nearly completed by director S. Fatehlal at the Kardar Studios. The cast consists of Manju, Sulochana Chatterjee, Manmohan Krishna, Master Ramesh Kapoor and Moti the dog. There are many touching sequences ably directed by Fatehlal. Producer A. R. Tumbi has one eye on the box-office and has therefore made "Chand" as entertaining as possible. Dr. Safdar Aah has written the story and the dialogue.

SADIQ PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

"Chhoo Mantar" starring Shyama and Karan Dewan was released at the Super Cinema, Bombay, where it is entertaining audiences with its humour and catchy music by O. P. Nayyar. Produced and directed by M. Sadiq, "Chhoo Mantar" is a sure chase-your-blues-away picture. Photography is by Minoo Bilimoria.

SHRIRANGAM (Bombay)

"Seema" starring Nutan, Balraj Sahni and Shubha Khote, Producer-director Amiya Chakrabarty's latest hit, is heading for a silver jubilee at the Majestic, Bombay. Amiya is now concentrating on "Kath Putli", another purposeful social starring Vyjayantimala in the feminine lead.

DESH CHITRA (Bombay)

The most talked of picture these days is Producer Dewan Sharan's "Nirvana", the classic story of Vasavadatta, the beautiful courtesan who excited the love of emperor Chandragupta Maurya in ancient times. Planned in gorgeous Technicolor, the impressive cast is headed by Vyjayantimala, Vinita Butt, Abhi Bhattacharya and supported by David, Pran, Gope, Naina, Manmohan Krishna, Venus, etc. Direction is by Jaya Gopal while music is by C. Ramchandra.

RAWALPINDI THEATRES (Bombay)

"Sohni Mahiwal", the popular Punjabi folk tale immortalizing the two tragic lovers Sohni and Mahiwal, is being brought to the screen again after a decade with Ashok Kumar as Mahiwal and Madhubala as Sohni. "Sohni Mahiwal" has direction by Raja Nawathe and as a love story always has an evergreen interest, its success seems to be a foregone conclusion. An added attraction is haunting music by Naushad to lyrics composed by Shakeel Badayuni. The producers are going all out to make "Sohni Mahiwal" lavish and spectacular.

PUSHPA PICTURES (Bombay)

"Inspector" featuring Ashok Kumar, Geeta Bali, K. N. Singh and Pran and directed by Shakti Samanta was released at the Imperial, Bombay on May 4. Produced in record time by Producer A. A. Nadiadwala, "Inspector" has enough mystery and suspense to thrill filmgoers. Two more pictures which will go into shooting soon are: "Ayodhya-Pati" featuring Usha Kiran and Abhi Bhattacharya and directed by S. Fatehlal; "Guest House" featuring Madhubala, Shyama and Ashok Kumar and directed by Shakti Samanta.

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OUR REVIEW

"Naya Aadmi" Not A World-beater But Entertaining

Good Picture For A Dull Day

Jupiter Pictures' "Naya Aadmi" is quite a well-produced picture that manages to entertain in spite of its sloppy screenplay, uneven direction and numerous crude and naive passages.

The story it narrates is not bad as fiction, but as presented on the screen it looks farfetched and unconvincing. But some entertaining dances, bits of pleasant music, some amusingly earthy pieces of dialogue and a good dose of humour plus an element of interest in the basic story, help the picture to become a tolerable affair on the whole.

GREED AND GIRLS

Mayadas is a prosperous but mean money-lender who adores money and practises villainy. Anxious that his true character should not be missed by the audience, he eagerly and crudely reveals himself in the very first scene, and leaves one in no doubt at all when he treacherously and inhumanly gets the old and humble house of one of his debtors auctioned on the eve of Diwali. Sitaram, the debtor, who expected that day his son Anand to return home with a law degree under his arm, and who only wanted Mayadas to put off the auction for a few hours till his son returned, feels too aggrieved and ends his life by hanging himself.

When Anand returns he is shocked to find his father swinging from the tree in the house courtyard, and when he learns the reason behind his father's suicide, he starts showing his teeth in rage and vows to wreak vengeance on Mayadas. But as Anand starts sharpening a lethal weapon, Jaggu, an old pal of Anand and a carefree, earthy character, advises him to think of a less violent and more painful punishment for Mayadas. And soon they find one when one night they accidentally stumble on the corpse of the murdered Parmanand, a wealthy man who was leaving behind pots of money, a sole relative in his blind mother, and who bore a striking resemblance to Anand. Jaggu prompts, and Anand decides to step into the shoes of the dead Parmanand, work his way inside Mayadas' family and then unleash his vengeance.

The plan is put into practice, Anand becomes Parmanand and with all the dead man's money and reputation at his disposal easily lands at Mayadas' house as the husband of his only daughter, Rajni. And right from the wedding day, Anand starts working for the destruction of Mayadas' reputation and the peace in his family.

The different shapes Anand's vengeance takes often appear as pointless and unconvincing but the rest of the picture shows how he determinedly maltreats Rajni, harasses Mayadas and separates him from his son, Shekhar, because of Shekhar's love for his maid-servant Chandni, and otherwise wrecks Mayadas' family's peace and happiness. The end comes when Mayadas is about to be arrested for suspected complicity in a murder and realizing that all his money cannot help him prepares to swing from a rope. Anand, however, doesn't let Mayadas repeat his own father's tragedy, and satisfied with Mayadas' complete humiliation and frustration reveals himself and many other mysteries and all ends well with Mayadas regretting his mean and evil past and deciding to turn a good and new man.

MODERATELY IMPRESSIVE

The production values are quite good. Sets serve the purpose. Photography is generally good. Sound recording is passably good. Lyrics are the usual stuff. The music is interesting in places. The dialogue evokes interest in some passages preaching the philosophy of commonsense, but at other moments it is quite crude and stupid and generally is longwinded. The direction is uneven and inclined to be crude but is good in flashes.

Men have many crazy methods of attracting a woman's attention. One of them is crowing, with the harmonium keeping company. Vyjayantimala wonders whether music had changed its course when Kishore Kumar bursts into a song in "New Delhi", a love tale.

From the players, N. T. Rama Rao as Anand does apparently sincere work, but his expressions tend to be exaggerated and are not always happy. He is, however, tolerable on the whole. Jamuna as his unnecessarily victimized wife Rajni appears quite a good looker and acts more or less adequately. Anjali Devi as the maid-servant Chandni who provides the only romance with Shekhar, in this tale of revenge, does quite well. Anwar as Jaggu gives the most popular performance in the picture in a familiar role. Ram Sharma as Shekhar is rather gawky. R. Nagendra Rao as Mayadas makes too obvious a villain, but manages to fill the bill. From the rest, Gope executes some usual comedy—obvious and unconvincing.

In short, "Naya Aadmi" is not an impressive example of story telling or film making, but it is a tolerably good entertainer that can be risked on a day that is too dull and dreary.

NAYA AADMI

Producers:	**Jupiter Pictures**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story:	**C. Annathurai**
Dialogue & Lyrics:	**Rajehdra Krishna**
Music:	**Vishwanath & Ram Murty**
Photography:	**P. Ramaswamy**
Sound:	**A. Govindswamy**
Cast:	**Anjali Devi, N. T. Rama Rao, Jamuna, Ram Sharma, Anwar Hussein, Gope & R. Nagendra Rao**
Released At:	**Liberty & Lamington, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**27th April 1956**

Directed By:
C. P. DIXIT

OUR REVIEW

"Mastani", A Crude And Ugly Trash

Picture That Makes You Swear

Sharad Productions' "Mastani" is a crude, ugly, disgraceful picture that makes one feel ashamed of the Indian film industry and makes one feel like cursing everybody who had anything to do with its making. This picture treats intelligence and commonsense like social vices, grace like leprosy, and good taste like a radio-active element. It does not go near any of them. If there is a thing called 'cinematic art', the makers of "Mastani" never seem to have even heard the phrase.

Crude melodrama, stinkingly crude farce, idiotic stunts—all

rolled into an atrociously stupid Ruritanian tale spell the sum total of this celluloid monstrosity called "Mastani". The picture has obviously been made to make some quick and easy money without any investment of intelligence or imagination. But if "Mastani" succeeds in doing that, it will only once more prove that Indian picturegoers are damn fools.

PRIME MINISTER TALE

The whole ugly, insufferable nonsense begins with Harnam Singh, the Prime Minister of a state, ordering his soldiers to set a cluster of huts on fire and delightedly watching the huts go up in smoke. Suddenly two men come riding on the scene. One of them is the Prince of the state and the other Harnam's own son. They ask him to account for the arson and Harnam explains that he has plans to build a royal palace on the spot. Both the men denounce Harnam for his barbarity, the Prince more vehemently.

The scene shifts to the palace and it is learnt that the state has no king but only the Prince awaiting to climb the throne, that the Prince is Harnam's sister's son, and that Harnam is greatly anxious to dispatch to the other world both his sister and her son in order to usurp the state himself. That ambition of Harnam keeps everyone on the run every moment and the director sees to it that no moment is lacking in stupidity. The Prince keeps on escaping from murder, walking in and out of jail and making love to a village belle he has picked up as his heart-throb. The Prince's mother too keeps on oscillating between death and life and dungeon and palace. Harnam Singh keeps on being tied and untied, chasing and being chased and even fighting his own son for whom he originally intended to usurp the state but who happens to prefer a dead father to a throne usurper. Finally, of course, Harnam dies with his unfulfilled ambitions leaving the Prince free to fulfil his own, and as the picture ends one feels that it should have been among those things that went up in smoke in the first scene.

NO RELIEF AT ALL

The production values are rotten. Sets are ugly. Photography is extremely poor. Sound recording is utterly inefficient. The dialogue is so crude and stupid that it hardly entitles the dialogue-writer to bear the name he does now. The music is familiar or uninteresting in every strain. The direction is crude and clumsy.

From the players everybody looks odd or stupid. Nigar Sultana plays the boisterous village belle the Prince is in love with, but she looks more a brash and experienced wench than a simple village maiden. Manhar Desai, who plays the Prince, is a difficult creature to describe. He looks an odd and ugly gadget on two legs who would hurt the eyes of everyone who wants a man to look like a man and behave like a man. Shahu Modak as Harnam's son looks like an old neglected statue taken off its pedestal and wafted about by wind. From the rest, the man who plays Harnam Singh, looks a rare villain who makes one laugh at him rather than hate him, while Agha, in a clownish role, is more crude than perhaps he has ever been, and specially for that long stretch of time where he dresses up as a woman he is quite disgusting.

In short, "Mastani" is a stinkingly crude, rotten and idiotic picture which picturegoers must keep miles away from.

MASTANI

Producers:	**Sharad Productions**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story & Screenplay:	**Dhirubhai Desai**
Dialogue:	**Omar Khayam**
Music:	**B . N. Bali**
Photography:	**M. Vinayak Kamat**
Sound:	**Bulbule, Mehara**
Cast:	**Nigar Sultana, Manhar Desai, Shahu Modak, Agha, Ratnamala, etc.**
Released At:	**Lamington, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**6th April 1956.**

Directed By:
DHIRUBHAI DESAI

OUR REVIEW

"Shrimati 420" Deserves Second Look By Censors

Idiotic And Morally Objectionable Picture

Sippy Films' "Shrimati 420" is not only a stupid title, it is also a stupid picture. In fact, it is one of the most stupid pictures ever produced. Most of the picture constitutes a silly character's dream, but for the spectator it becomes an ugly, insufferable nightmare.

Trying to be some sort of satire but only succeeding in looking a pure piece of stupidity, the whole picture is one long argument stretching over 12,000 and odd feet and asserting that women have the right to do all that men do. But this championing of women's cause is done in such a daft, dunderheaded manner that one cannot help treating the picture as concentrated nonsense.

SINDHI PRESCRIPTION

The picture mocks at the tradition of Hindu wives regarding their husbands as gods even if they happen to be degenerate debauchees, and argues that if men indulge in drinking, gambling, philandering, brothel-visiting, womanising and other vices, their wives too have a right to do the same or similar things without having men to complain. It also seems to suggest that wives of errant husbands, instead of worshipping their husbands, should take up the shoe in hand to set them right.

This does seem to be a Sindhi solution of women's problems. In a signed preface to the picture that one is not given enough time to read fully, Director G.P. Sippy, who claims the authorship of the story, says something about having been inspired to write this story by the unhappy life of a sister of his, and dedicates the picture to those unhappy women whose husbands are no gods deserving worship but incorrigible sinners deserving a lesson. It is a pity the worthy dedication does not match the dedicated stuff.

Fortunately this stupid picture is not likely to be seen by many and few of those who see it are likely to treat it as anything but nonsense. So there is little chance of Hindu women taking this picture's advice and adding to their unhappiness. That conjugal fidelity is an obligation that must be respected by both the parties to the marriage is an old moral prin-

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Women have their problems and in youth they are not merely problems of the heart. Women also have to worry about their weight. Let us see what Vyjayantimala is worrying about in "Sitaron se Aagey", a social entertainer of V. L. Narasu.

ciple that no one seriously denies. But to conclude from this that infidelity by one party should be retaliated with infidelity by the other party can only be described as a philosophy of immorality and of cutting one's nose to spite another.

It would be useless to try to impress upon G.P. Sippy, one-time building contractor who is now in the film business evidently to make a fast buck and who cannot be suspected of much thought, the good points of the Hindu tradition that assigns to the Hindu wife the role of a model of virtuousness. Let Sippy only remember that if India is still much happier than most other nations as far as morality and marital harmony are concerned, the traditional and religious devotion of Hindu women to their husbands under all circumstances has much to do with it. Nobility of woman is an essential basis of the Hindu society and culture, and though there may be and are unhappy wives in India, at least we do not have brazen promiscuity in the form of remarriages with children getting a new father with every change in season. G.P. Sippy's picture, preaching retaliatory immorality by the wives of errant husbands, is not merely stupid but it deserves a second look by the censors.

ANTI-SOCIAL STORY

The story deals with Rai Bahadur Gulabchand, a puny, silly-looking creature and a most unlikely looking millionaire that one ever saw. Gulabchand is a married man but a rotter dissipating his life in drink, gambling, ballroom dancing, brothel-visiting and philandering. There is no end to the number of girl-friends he has and one night he goes to sleep sodden with drink and caressing the photographs of his numerous girl-friends. During the sleep he starts dreaming and the dream forms most of the picture. In that dream Gulabchand is what he is in real life, a profligate, but his wife becomes a brazen woman who decides to retaliate by following his conduct in life. She gets an ugly lover in one Dilip, receives love letters from him, remains quite casual when they are opened by her husband, makes love to Dilip in her husband's house and in the husband's presence, and does many similar things. The dream goes on for thousands of feet in this vein because Gulabchand remains an impotent husband who cannot do anything except using his tongue, whether for rebukes or appeals, to check his wife. The final phase of the dream shows Gulabchand's wife on the verge of marrying Dilip and Gulabchand frantically and impotently trying to stop her. Gulabchand wakes up at this stage and finds his wife still a religious and devotedly faithful woman. Remembering the dream he takes a vow to be ever good and faithful to his wife.

CHEAP BURLESQUE

With comedian Johnny Walker playing Gulabchand, Meena Shorey playing the wife and Om Prakash playing the illicit lover, the picture becomes a cheap burlesque, nonsensical in every foot and insufferable at every moment. The production values are mediocre. Sets range from clumsy to tolerable. Photography is average. Sound recording is erratic. The dialogue strives to match the stupidity of the story. The music is mostly O.P. Nayyar's usual hybrid stuff. The direction is consistently idiotic.

From the players Meena Shorey as the brazen wife seems to be in her native element generally, but Johnny Walker makes a sorry spectacle throughout. Om Prakash looks so repulsive that one constantly wonders where to rest his eyes while he is on the screen. From the rest nobody attracts any attention.

In short, "Shrimati 420" is one of the most stupid pictures ever produced. It is not only concentrated nonsense but the carrier of an empty-headed, anti-social philosophy. It deserves a second look by the censors.

SHRIMATI 420

Producers:	**Sippy Films**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story:	**G. P. Sippy**
Screenplay and Dialogue:	**Ram Prakash Ashok**
Lyrics:	**Jan Nisar Akhtar, Majrooh**
Music:	**O. P. Nayyar**
Photography:	**Roque Layton**
Sound:	**V. V. Gandhi, B. J. Patel**
Cast:	**Meena Shorey, Johnny Walker, Om Prakash, Kamal, etc.**
Released at:	**Naaz, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**27th April 1956.**

Directed By:
G. P. SIPPY

OUR REVIEW

"Sailaab", A Picture For Your Worst Enemy

Boring, Stupid And Incoherent Stuff

Boring, stupid and incoherent —that is "Sailaab" in three mild words. It is a picture made without imagination and without any thoughts of mercy to the spectator. As an entertainment it is miserably amateurish but as a torture it is almost perfect. And one who has once suffered will take a long time to forget this torture.

The idiotic tale tells about Gautam, a man who is described as "handsome and happy-go-lucky" but who actually looks ugly and weepy. Gautam's father, Sinha, is a rich man owning some plantation in Assam and eager to train his son to manage his business and estate. So, when some labour trouble occurs on his plantation, Sinha and his wife succeed in persuading Gautam to take a trip to Assam.

Setting out on the journey Gautam boards an airplane where soon after the take-off Kamini, a designing woman in league with a professional crook, starts making crude and

desperate efforts to win his interest. Gautam, however, refuses to melt and remains quite insultingly unresponsive. Later on the plane runs into bad weather, starts swaying like a boat and grounds in a forest in a forced landing. The passengers step out of the plane without being much hurt but Gautam, for no appreciable reason, decides to go amnesic and emerges from the plane as a man who does not remember anything of the past.

SOFT-BRAINED HERO

Now while the other stranded passengers behave like a picnic crowd, the amnesic Gautam manages to strike a friendship with Kanchan, the girl from an odd monastery nearby. In spite of Kanchan being forbidden to love or marry by the code of her monastery, she and Gautam soon fall in love with each other. But by the time they exchange vows of never leaving each other, the old man Sinha arrives on the spot and takes his son back home. Mrs. Sinha does not appreciate Gautam not recognizing her and decides to kick the bucket. As if he was only waiting for her to die, Gautam now recovers his memory but forgets all about Kanchan and the forced landing. He cannot remember the episode even when Kanchan, accompanied by his father, comes all the way to Calcutta to remind him of his promise. That makes Kanchan quite broken hearted and disillusioned in apparently her first experience with the world beyond her monastery.

Kanchan, therefore, returns to her forlorn village and decides to renounce the world and enter the monastery as a devotee once and for all. But Gautam, whose brain does not seem to work at all and whose memory always seems to believe in putting in a late sprint, suddenly remembers all about Kanchan on seeing a ring he had presented to her, and makes an immediate dash for her. He catches her just as she is about to be initiated into the life of a recluse, apologises to her and appeals to her to come back to him. As Kanchan threatens to carry out her decision ignoring Gautam's plea, the chief priest at the ceremony, a crooked looking creature in a sadhu's clothes, advises her to leave religion alone and go and seek romance with her lover. Kanchan takes the advice and brings the unhappy picture to a happy end.

The boredom and inanity of this picture cannot be described. They can only be experienced. The characters move like damaged puppets in the hands of a sleepy wire-puller. The picture moves like a bullock-cart going uphill. Most of the moving is done by the spectator who is obliged to squirm in his seat throughout the picture like an earthworm covered with salt.

STUPID DIRECTION

The production values are mediocre. Sets are generally poor. Photography is inconsistent. Sound recording is erratic. The dialogue is dull. The lyrics are so so, but the music is peppy and interesting in places even though familiar. The direction is singularly stupid.

The players are all handicapped by a silly script and silly

NIRUPA ROY'S BEAUTY HINTS
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Then rinse and dry —you'll feel so fresh!
For all-over beauty use the big Bath-size— as I do."
NIRUPA ROY CHOOSES
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FOR
ITS WHITENESS
AND PURITY
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THE PURE, WHITE BEAUTY SOAP OF THE FILM STARS
Made in India
LTS. 474-X52-100

Nimmi and Bharat Bhusan lend melody and rhythm to romance in "Basant Bahar", a love tale produced by Shri Vishwa Bharati Films.

direction. But even then the performances could be better and could have relieved the tedium a bit. Geeta Bali as Kanchan seems to work half-heartedly, though it is not her fault that a silly direction extracts more sex appeal from her than emotion. Abhi Bhattacharya as Gautam looks an ugly lotus-eater and fails to impress almost throughout. Abhi might be a good artiste but with his ordinary looks and personality he is a misfit as a romantic hero whom one expects to be at least handsome and possess some magnet in his personality. Bipin Gupta, as Gautam's father, is as usual affected. It is ever so rare that this man looks or sounds sincere. His Urdu pronunciation is still erratic. From the rest, Smriti Biswas, as the designing Kamini, plays one more irritatingly stereotyped role in an irritatingly stereotyped manner, while Ram Singh, as her accomplice, does not seem to know most of the time that he is playing a part and not paying a visit to the producer on the sets.

In short, "Sailaab" is a picture that picturegoers must remember as something that deserves to be scrupulously avoided. And if a picturegoer forgets that, there is in store for him a more painful experience than he could have wished to befall an enemy.

SAILAAB

Producers:	**Emar Films**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Screenplay:	**Nabendu Ghosh**
Dialogue:	**Sarshar Sailani, Abrar Alvi**
Lyrics:	**Hasrat Jaipuri, Majrooh, Shailendra, etc.**
Music:	**Mukul Roy**
Photography:	**Ajoy Kar**
Sound:	**P. Thackersey**
Cast:	**Geeta Bali, Abhi Bhattacharya, Ram Singh, Smriti Biswas, Bipin Gupta, etc.**
Released At:	**Imperial, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**13th April, 1956**

Directed By:
GURU DUTT

OUR REVIEW

"Hari Har Bhakti", A Picture For Families

Well Produced Mythological Tale

Hindu mythology is full of myriad colourful and exciting tales—tales that provide entertainment, a moral, as well as a clue to the times they tell about. But, usually, though the moral, emphasizing the triumph of good over evil, is uniformly simple, the clue to the reality of the times is wrapped in the mist of literary fancifulness and religious dogmatism and it is not generally easy to penetrate the mist and get at the clue.

A tale of this kind is the well-known one about the romance between Krishna's grandson Anirudh and Banasur's daughter Usha. This tale pits Lord Shankar and Lord Krishna against each other in a regular earthly battle, tells about their using against each other the weapons called "Vaishnav Jwar" and "Maheshwar Jwar", shows "Vaishnav Jwar" proving mightier than "Maheshwar Jwar" and Krishna emerging as victorious in the battle, and then ends with the dictum that whoever will recite every morning the account of the battle between Shankar and Krishna will never suffer defeat. At least that is how the tale is described in Bhagwat Puran where Shukdev recounts one tale after another to King Parikshit.

USHA SWAPNA

Raghuvir Chitra Niketan's "Hari Har Bhakti" is based on the mythological tale, and if for nothing else the picture deserves credit for making an attempt to interpret the social significance of the tale in the context of the times it tells about. Not that "Hari Har Bhakti" is a critical and rational portrayal of an ancient legend and is not a conventional mythological picture. It is a deep-dyed, traditional mythological all right, full of tricks and miracles, wigs and whiskers, stentorian orations and devotional punctuations. But the picture uses the tale to preach peace against war, religious tolerance against intolerance, and specially interesting is its interpretation that the battle between Krishna and Banasur was actually the culmination of a long smouldering feud between the respective sects of the worshippers of Shiva and Vishnu.

Bhagwat Puran says that Banasur waged wars simply because he was itching to test his might. "Hari Har Bhakti" depicts Banasur as a power-mad ruler but more than that as a fanatic Shaivite who was filled with intolerance for the rival Vishnuite sect and bent upon annihilating all worshippers of Vishnu. It is quite a plausible interpretation seeing that the "Vaishnav Jwar" and "Maheshwar Jwar" that Bhagwat Puran refers to, might have meant the communal fever (Jwar) or passion of the followers of the two sects. This gives "Hari Har Bhakti" a touch of intelligence not usually found in mythological pictures.

Briefly, the tale shows Banasur, the ruler of Shonitpur, winning after a marathon penance a boon from Lord Shiva that he will never suffer defeat at the hands of an outside enemy. After that Banasur starts a campaign of persecuting the worshippers of Vishnu which includes either forcibly converting Vishnuites to the Shaivite sect or killing them or driving them out. And at times in his fanatic zeal Banasur does look like an earlier version of a Moghul emperor. While this religious feud goes on, Banasur's daughter Usha sees in her dreams Anirudh, the grandson of Krishna, and falls in love with him. Soon Chitralekha, an enterprising friend of Usha, locates Anirudh in Dwarka and brings him to Usha. The legend insists that Anirudh was kidnapped while sleeping and opened his eyes only in Shonitpur. Anyway Anirudh isn't sorry when he opens his eyes and goes ahead with a romantic interlude with Usha.

When Banasur discovers Anirudh's presence in his daughter's chamber, he flies into a rage more so because Anirudh is a prince of Dwarka, the last stronghold of Vishnuites. Banasur makes Anirudh a prisoner and soon finds Krishna attacking Shonitpur with his army. In the tricks-filled battle that follows Shankar comes to help his devotee, Banasur, but according to the legend Krishna had done something to divert Shankar's mind from the battle. Banasur is ultimately defeated and humbled and he loudly realizes that Shankar and Krishna (Vishnu's avatar) are only different concepts of the same essence. In the end Usha and Anirudh too are happily united.

COMPETENT DIRECTION

The production values are pretty good, the sets being quite impressive. Photography and sound recording, however, are not quite happy. The dia-

logue is loud and too obvious. The music is good in bits, and specially song No. 7 ("chori chori aai gori") is lilting enough to be popular. C. Raghuvir's direction is surprisingly competent realizing that he has not had much experience. The man deserves encouragement.

From the players, hardly anybody makes a pleasant impression. Asha Mathur as Usha looks dull, ugly and expressionless. Vivek as Anirudh looks an unsurpassably graceless and grotesque creature and makes his very presence on the screen a torture for the spectator. Trilok Kapoor plays Shankar for the umpteenth time without any visible strain but his Tandav is a new Tango. That is a good scene for some laughs. Shahu Modak as Krishna is not too insufferable. From the rest Ullhas as Banasur gives quite an earsplittingly loud and overtoned performance, while Durga Khote as his wife is as usual stagy.

In short, "Hari Har Bhakti", though a conventional mythological tale, is yet different from other mythological pictures in that it makes an attempt to interpret the tale in social terms. The difference is of some interest and indicates some intelligence — a thing so rare in our mythological pictures. It is a picture worth seeing with grandmother and children.

HARI HAR BHAKTI

Producers: **Raghuvir Chitra Niketan**
Language: **Hindustani**
Story: **Madhusudan Kalelkar**
Dialogue: **C. M. Agarwal, G. K. Vyas**
Lyrics: **S. P. Kalla, Chandra, Chandrakant.**
Music: **K. Dutta**
Photography: **M. N. Kulkarni**
Sound: **Pancholi, Mehara**
Cast: **Asha Mathur, Trilok Kapoor, Vivek, Shahu Modak, Ullhas, Durga Khote, etc.**
Released At: **Central, Bombay**
Date of Release: **27th April 1956**

Directed By:
C. RAGHUVIR

A smiling challenge is the most dangerous phase in the war of nerves between man and woman. A woman who smiles wears a perfect mask. Let us see what Madhubala is about in "Najma", a romantic tale.

OUR REVIEW

"Bhai Bhai" Chettiar's Box-Office Bonanza

AVM Picture Draws Huge Crowds

Producer A. V. Meiyappan's "Bhai Bhai" is a lavish production whose every frame looks rich and reveals technical skill. It is a picture produced in the best commercial traditions of entertainment that have been given to the film industry by producers from South India. Not a single penny seems to have been pinched in making the production handsome, while entertainment has been crammed into the picture with the zeal of an exporter sending a sample of his goods to his potential customers. And the shortcomings of the picture notwithstanding, "Bhai Bhai" is going to bring Producer Meiyappan much, much more than a fair return on his investment. And that is what we all pray for.

Literarily and dramatically "Bhai Bhai" is wanting, but its overall emphasis being on entertainment and its obvious design being to please those that are easily pleased, its deficiencies are not likely to come in the way of its popularity. The most curious thing about "Bhai Bhai" is that it tells quite a plausible tale in a believe-it-or-not fashion. But the curiousness ceases to be so once one realizes that the picture is directed by M.V. Raman. Raman is no stickler for dramatic truths nor is he fastidious about realism. He believes in chasing the box-office hare. He has bagged the hare before, and in "Bhai Bhai" he seems to have got another one in the bag. The only regret is that while hunting down the box-office hare, he manages to hurt sensitive spectators too who think that softness, subtlety and realism have their uses in motion pictures. Raman may realize that a motion picture can be at once entertaining and realistic, telling and soft, effective and subtle. He doesn't, however, seem to realize that in "Bhai Bhai".

TALE OF BROTHERS

The story of "Bhai Bhai", doing justice to its title, deals with two brothers, Ashok and Raja. When the picture opens Ashok is the proprietor of an automobile firm in Madras, the happy husband of a devoted wife named Laxmi, and the father of a nice little boy. There is no trace yet of Raja, the other brother, and it is learnt that he is missing since childhood. Ashok happens to have a branch of his firm in Bombay which he has not visited for a long time. One day he decides to do so and wires his Bombay manager to keep the account books ready for inspection and await his arrival.

That ordinary decision of Ashok becomes the beginning of a sordid drama in his life. Promising his wife to return home on their child's birthday, Ashok departs for Bombay where he is duly received by Bulbul, the manager of his Bombay branch. But an unexpected item for Ashok in Bulbul's reception happens to be a sophisticated-looking young woman accompanying Bulbul. Bulbul introduces her to Ashok as a distant sister of his going by the name of Sangeeta. But the truth happens to be that

Sangeeta is Bulbul's wife who has agreed to pose as Bulbul's sister because Bulbul, a devoted cheat and embezzler, has been swindling the company and keeping the books messy and who now not only wants to use his pretty wife to keep Ashok at bay but also to fleece him further by enmeshing him in her toils.

Soon Ashok, who seems to have been only waiting for such an opportunity, is head over heels in fascination for the calculating seductress and even decides to ignore his son's birthday. Meanwhile, Ashok's long lost brother Raja is traced, though not by Ashok yet, and he is found to be a gay, chivalrous pickpocket leading a carefree life on the streets and persistently wooing a pert and petite street dancer who calls herself Rani. When Ashok becomes so enamoured of Sangeeta as to openly leave his wife and home, sell off his firm and come down to Bombay to establish a new home with Sangeeta, Laxmi accompanied by her child comes chasing her husband to Bombay and with the usual coincidences finds shelter with Raja who himself lives with Rani and her aged father.

And now begins a series of incongruous events. Raja spots and recognizes Ashok as his brother and starts trying in his own odd and sometimes stupid way to bring him to his senses. Towards the end Laxmi lands as a servant where Ashok lives and silently suffers Sangeeta dallying with Ashok, while Ashok simply refuses even to recognize his wife and child. The climax comes when Bulbul and Sangeeta realizing who Laxmi was and feeling satisfied that they have robbed Ashok of as much as they could, flee from the house leaving Laxmi and her child locked up in one room, and Rani in another where a drunken Ashok starts to manhandle her. Soon Raja and Laxmi also reach Ashok's room for a sordid scene in which the two brothers fight each other murderously for a while but quieten down when enough blood has been drawn from each. And then all unite in harmony and happiness, while Bulbul and Sangeeta are nabbed by the police before they can fly away with their loot.

An ancient game which Congressmen don't like because they don't get pretty girls to embrace. But the game is popular because it once had great champions like Laila, Majnu, Shirin, Farhad, Yusuf Zuleikha and many others. Pradeep and Madhubala make a new hugging team in "Shirin Farhad", produced and directed by Aspi, himself a modern Farhad.

FINE PRODUCTION VALUES

The production values are first rate. Sets are fine and handsome, sometimes unnecessarily so. For instance, Rani's abode, as shown in the picture, is rather luxurious for the street dancer of a city where thousands are obliged to sleep on pavements. Photography is pleasant and efficient. Sound is generally well recorded. The dialogue is long in wind, short on subtlety and full of claptrap. The lyrics are mostly familiar and frivolous. The music is generally loud, fast and rhythmic but of a catchy and popular variety. It substantially adds to the entertainment. The direction serves its purpose, the purpose obviously being to serve fast and crowded entertainment without caring a damn for subtlety or credibility. Raman looks like a mechanical director without emotion or intelligence.

From the players, the real-life brothers Ashok Kumar and Kishore play the two brothers in the picture. Ashok as the elder brother does quite well but in places he looks tired and worn-out. Kishore as Raja is called upon to be mischievously brash, impudent and harassing to his brother and he seems to do all that with great relish. His performance on the whole is popular and energetic without revealing any dramatic or emotional depth, his acting range being very small. Nimmi as Rani gives a fine, frothy performance as usual and looks quite pleasant and attractive. Shyama as the scheming tart Sangeeta is well photographed but looks rather dumb for the designing character. She merely opens her teeth and calls it a smile. Nirupa Roy as the devoted wife Laxmi plays in a mechanical manner a role she has played many times before. From the rest Om Prakash as Bulbul serves the usual crude mixture of villainy and clowning, while David as Rani's father does some obviously sincere work though he looks uncomfortable in some awkward situations.

In fine, "Bhai Bhai" is a believable tale, handsomely mounted and presented in a believe-it-or-not manner. As a popular entertainer the picture is effective and has everything in it to attract crowds for months.

BHAI BHAI

Producers:	AVM Productions
Language:	Hindustani
Screenplay:	Javar Sitaraman
Dialogue & Lyrics:	Rajendra Krishan
Music:	Madan Mohan
Photography:	J. Muthuswamy
Sound:	J. J. Manickam, M. A. Shivraj, etc.
Cast:	Ashok Kumar, Kishore, Nimmi, Nirupa Roy, Shyama, Om Prakash, David, etc.
Released At:	Roxy, Bombay
Date of Release:	20th April 1956.

Directed By: M. V. RAMAN

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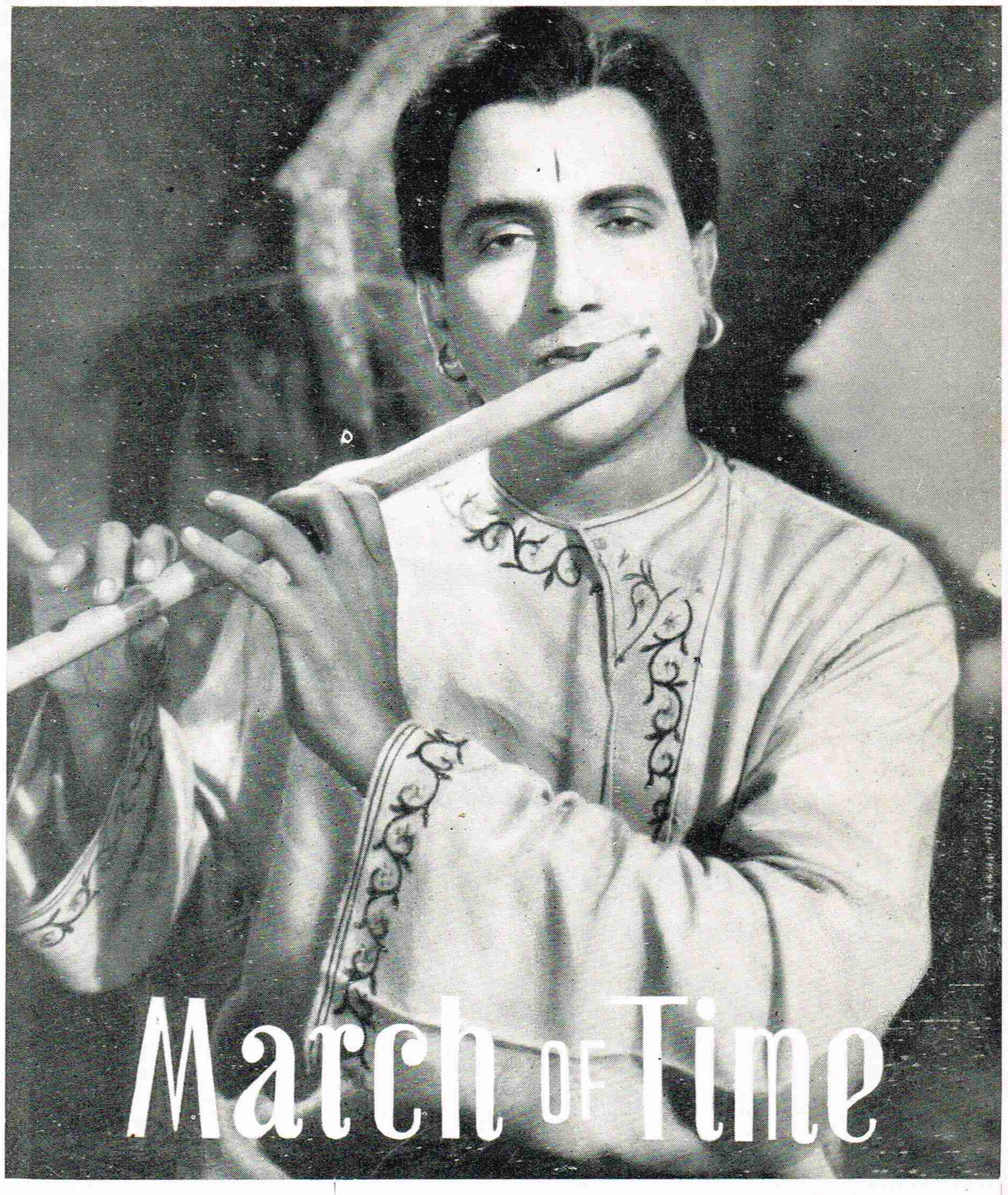

MURDERER'S DAUGHTER

Carolina Picchioni, a tall, slim 17-year-old Italian girl, made headlines in Italian newspapers in April when her generous benefactor, Robert Wilbraham Fitz Aucher, an Englishman, died recently leaving behind an estimated $2,000,000 in in his will for his young ward.

This is a true Cinderella story with an even more grim and morbid background than the original fairy tale. Daughter of Ernesto Picchioni, a professional thief and murderer, Carolina's childhood memories were darkened with live scenes of murder in the home. When Carolina, her sisters and mother protested, he terrorized them so much that he once made them dig a long family grave in the backyard to throw them in when they opened their lips to expose him. Ernesto was such a terror and killed so many innocent men and women that he soon came to be known as the "Monster of Nerola". At last Ernesto was caught by the police when he confessed to a dozen or more murders and was sentenced to life imprisonment. Carolina and her sisters were sent to Rome's House of Calasanziane Sisters for orphans and convicts' children.

At the orphanage Carolina learnt the domestic arts, reading, etc. One day, a lonely rich man, Fitz Aucher, wanted to adopt a child and when 157 girls were lined up, he picked up Carolina. He probably wanted to train her up in the Pygmalion style and began teaching her English, sports, etc. He left her in charge of an elderly couple in Rome during this training period when death snatched him away.

In a day Carolina has become the richest teenager in Italy. Thrilled with her good fortune, Carolina said she would pray for the soul of Signor Fitz Aucher, that "very good man", build a pretty home for her mother and then go to Texas to see cowboys in flesh and blood.

DEATH'S ANGEL

Albert Pierrepoint, Britain's chief hangman, who resigned his job after the House of Commons abolished death penalty for murder, has written his memoirs of 433 men and 17 women he executed. Two journalist ghost writers helped him in this job. The serial and book rights of these gory memoirs had an immediate bidder in 'Empire News' owned by Lord Kemsley, which was of late reported to be going down in circulation. They were bought for £40,000.

Albert Pierrepoint has left no exciting details for the reader's imagination. Talking of John Reginald Christie he says, "I hanged John Reginald Christie in less time than it took the ash to fall off a cigar I had left half-smoked in my room at Pentonville".

In the meantime, another rival paper, Lord Rothermere's 'Sunday Dispatch' which had once serialized "Forever Amber", bought the rights of a diary written by hangman William Willis and edited by Dr. Harold Dearden. But Willis' remarks are not as bold as Pierrepoint's.

But quite a few plans of men and mice go wrong. Soon news went round Fleet Street that the Home Office was considering prosecution of Pierrepoint under the Official Secrets Act for disclosing information in his official capacity.

To his mild face, Bharat Bhushan has now added a melodious flute. The combination should play havoc with soft and vulnerable hearts of college girls. Let us hope that those from Uttar Pradesh don't begin to consider themselves as "gopis" because then Bharat will have to become Krishna to tackle them. Let us see what this mild-mannered guy is doing with a flute in "Basant Bahar", a musical romance.

On 15th April, 'Empire News' announced, "In view of the difficulties that have arisen in the publication of the articles by Albert Pierrepoint, the former executioner, it has been decided to discontinue the series in the 'Empire News' and 'Sunday Chronicle'. So the memoirs of Pierrepoint underwent a quick abortion!

AND A WRITER

American novelist, William Faulkner, who is reported to have said, "But there is no middle ground and if people like me have got to choose, then I am on the side of Mississippi. I would fight for Mississippi against the United States even if it meant going into the streets to shoot Negroes", in a copyrighted interview of "Reporter", has now come out with a denial. According to Faulkner, the story was "more a misconstruction than a misquotation" by the interviewer. "They are statements which no sober man would make or no sane man believe", added Faulkner.

But Russell Warren Howe, the New York correspondent of 'The London Sunday Times', who had interviewed Faulkner said, "I took notes in shorthand and Mr. Faulkner's comments were taken down verbatim".... "If Mr. Faulkner no longer agrees with the more Dixiecratic of his statements, I for one, am very glad, but that is what he said."

Perhaps on second thought Faulkner realized his folly. And quickly too! For only a mad man can talk in that strain.

DIE-HARD YANKEES

The U.S. Supreme Court, Washington, D.C., gave a unanimous ruling banning racial segregation on buses travelling within any of the 48 United States on April 23, 1956. The Supreme Court refused to review a decision by a Federal Circuit Court at Richmond which had held that segregation on buses violated the Federal Constitution. Ten years ago the Supreme Court banned racial segregation on buses travelling from one State to another.

For the last five months Negroes had boycotted the buses of the Montgomery City Lines on racial grounds of discrimination. But the angry Southerners are not going to be softened with a Supreme Court ruling. Mr. Glyde Sellers, the police commissioner of Montgomery, who is a member of the White Citizens' Council (an organization dedicated to the preservation of racial segregation) said that any passenger violating city or state racial segregation laws would be prosecuted.

RE-BIRTH OF BARLACH

Ernst Barlach, one of Germany's greatest sculptors, despised in Nazi Germany and even condemned wrongly as a Bolshevik, was honoured recently at Harvard's Busch-Reisinger Museum, in U.S., a travelling exhibition of 176 of his sculptures, drawings and prints.

Born the son of a physician in 1870 at Wedel, Holstein, Barlach symbolized the sufferings of the common man in his modern Gothic sculptures, one of his famous ones being "Crippled Beggar". He was also a popular poet and playwright.

But Hitler took a dislike to Barlach and banned his sculptures because they were "degenerate" and typical of "the passive Slav Soul". But what hurt Barlach most was the removal of his bronze 'Angel' in 1937 from the cathedral at Gustrow where he had worked for 27 years breathing life into his sculptural creation. He died a broken man the next year at the age of 68. Today the 'Angel' has been restored back to the cathedral where it really belonged as did the soul of Barlach. After eighteen years, Barlach's artistic genius has met with recognition. That is not bad for many artists live in obscurity and die in oblivion and are never re-born.

BUILDING HIS TOMB

With old age creeping fast on the Aga Khan, he is reported to have begun preparations for the construction of a tomb in the desert near Aswan. At his villa near Cannes, the Aga Khan and his architect are examining the plans for the building.

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The tomb will be constructed in the Fatimite style—the name of the North African dynasty from whom the Aga Khan is descended.

Said the Aga Khan: "My ancestors had tombs near Aswan. The building I plan will be dome-shaped and not very big. It should hold about 200 people. The inside will carry Koranic inscriptions".

The old man is building his own tomb as he is not sure of Ali's interest in tombs.

LOVE AND BE HAPPY

Love is an unconventional emotion for it rises above petty social and economic barriers often inspiring sensitive poets to sing of its glories. Fair complexioned, pretty-looking Princess Usha Raje, the 23-year-old daughter of Maharaja Yeshwantrao Holkar of Indore, is one such votary of love who caused quite a stir in social circles when she announced her engagement recently to Mr. Satish Malhotra, son of Mr. B. L. Malhotra, Superintending Engineer, Jamuna Canal, Delhi.

The Kshatriya Dhangar Samaj, an orthodox organization, immediately held a meeting to discuss this issue and adopted resolutions expressing grave concern over the announcement.

This type of puerile protest only puts back the clock of progress. Let not Princess Usha Raje listen to the Samaj. When Princess Margaret of England started pondering over the various protests made regarding her romance with Group Captain Peter Townsend, love literally flew out of the palace.

SELLING RELIGION

American Baptist, Dr. Paul B. Anderson, who was in Moscow and Leningrad recently to discuss with Soviet religious leaders how the churches could work for peace, in an interview said, "With eight other American churchmen, representing the National Council of Churches, I met the heads of all Soviet churches. They gave us a slight intimation that there is an easing of the situation since the 20th Communist Party Conference. They said things looked very much better—but they would not criticize the past."

There are eight theological seminaries and two theological colleges in Russia but they are overcrowded and there is a long list of students waiting to enter them. Their training is paid for out of church funds.

Anderson remarked that there was no religious teaching outside the ordinary local church service. But local priests were often invited to private homes to talk to children.

Religion in Communist Russia is far, far from satisfactory but then what else can you expect in a regimented State where the human mind is put into a deep freeze? Soon Soviet church leaders will be visiting U.S. for religious study. Whether the trip benefits them or not, at least they get a chance to see how religion functions outside Soviet Russia.

SEEING SENSE

Sometime in the last week of March, Paolo Rossi, Italian Minister of Education, announced that Latin would no longer be taught in Italy's junior high schools. Italian schoolboys were jubilant at the good news for at 14, they have to know at least 30 chapters of Caesar's "De Bello Gallico" and 300 lines of Virgil and Tibullus.

The advantage of abolishing Latin is that vocational and technical high school students need not waste time in learning Latin while those who want to study this difficult language—like teachers, priests, etc.—can do so at a later stage. In Rome, however, Roman Catholic Latinists shrugged their shoulders at the sudden change.

In keeping with present-day scientific developments, Latin has had new tongue twisters like: Radio electricum instrumentum exploratorium for radar; Follis pedumque ludus for football and Praedorium possessio publicae auctoritatis nutu excolenda for Soviet collective farm.

These words seem worse than our Raghuvirian Hindi ones. Evidently there are language fanatics all over the world.

SLAVE TRADE

In spite of a conscientious organization like the U.N. keeping a watchful eye on the whole world around, disgusting onslaughts on human rights and privileges continue to be practised in the name of religion in Saudi Arabia and certain areas of French Equatorial Africa, where slave traffic has assumed large proportions.

In his report on the African slave trade submitted to UNESCO, recently, Charles W. Greenidge, secretary of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society, described the method whereby slaves were transported to the required areas.

Saudi Arabian merchants in Jidda and Mecca sent their agents to villages in the Sudan, the Niger and Volta river regions with orders to obtain slaves. Pretending to be missionaries, the agents organised "pilgrimages" and carried the slaves ("pilgrims") across the Red Sea to Lith, a small port on the Saudi Arabian coast. Here they were arrested as illegal pilgrims and taken in trucks to prisons in Jidda. After one night in prison, the Jidda police delivered them to the Saudi Arabian consignee. They were then sold in the bazaars. Girls under 15 fetched the highest price, ranging from 2000 to 4000 riyals each ($1,100), while men under 40 were sold at 1500 riyals each ($400) and old women at 400 riyals ($105).

This 'pilgrimage' slave traffic has been estimated at more than 600 slaves a year. Let us see how the UNESCO tackles this problem described by Benjamin Gerig, the U.S. delegate as "one of the most dastardly remnants of man's inhumanity to man".

And we spent a fortune in extending princely hospitality to Saud Ibn, the King of Saudi Arabia when he visited India recently.

CHOICE BY WEIGHT

Mr. W. D. Cowlan of Eric, Pennsylvania, weighing 640 lbs married 23-year-old Mabel Ruth Watkins weighing 360 lbs at Jackson, Tennessee. Mr. Cowlan is a feature attraction in a travelling circus show and he

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Bhagwan, the aged comedian, gets some shock treatment which is supposed to bring him to earth. Minoo Mumtaz carries a 420-voltage shock in her little finger alone without considering the entire power station in "Mr. Lambu", a thrilling entertainer.

probably wanted to put up a double feature show with a wife at least half his weight.

Anyway it is a wonderfully matched affair. One deserves the other.

COMPENSATING BEGGARS

Though conventions die hard in Britain, the stern necessity of living in these times of high costs even for the so-called aristocratic peers and lords is a factor which cannot be overlooked.

A scheme, therefore, has been worked out by leaders of the British Government and the Opposition to remunerate the members of the Upper House to the extent of £3 a sitting. The Lords sit in the House on an average of 3 days in the week and they will thus earn £9 a week after 3 attendances. The plan also includes a recommendation to increase the salaries of junior ministers who now receive £1500 a year plus half their pay as M.P.'s which works out to £2000 a year.

Lords at the moment don't get any pay because when the House of Lords was instituted the Lords were wealthy aristocrats. Today prominent trade unionists and many others are raised to the peerage and quite a few of the traditional Lords are Lords merely in name. They feel that they should be paid something for their time. If the plan is approved, the Lord can at least wear a wan smile in place of a dark frown for his £9-a-week remuneration.

NO HOME BREW

A Division Bench of the Madras High Court gave a ruling on an alleged custom prevalent among certain sections of the Reddiar community in Tirunelveli district of a person marrying his own daughter's daughter while disposing of a civil appeal arising out of a partition suit.

Their Lordships observed, "A custom which is abhorrent to decency or morality, however long practised and recognized by a particular community, can find no kind of enforcement by a court of law". Their Lordships, therefore, felt that the civilized and cultured society in which they lived and the progressive country in which they were, should not approve of incest which would not find favour even in primitive and tribal societies. The marriage was, therefore, held illegal.

BERNARD SHAW'S "REMAINS"

The Public Trustee Office in London announced that George Bernard Shaw, the famous British author and playwright, left behind an estate of £600,000 when he died in 1950. In 1951, however, the provisional figure was valued at £301,585 but now the total net value has risen to £600,000. This estate is liable to death duties at a rate of 70%—about £420,000.

Even after death duty of about £420,000 the residue of the estate will be bigger than the original figure of about £100,000 given in 1951.

This residue was left for the establishment of a new 40-letter alphabet with the remaining money to be divided equally between the British Museum, the National Gallery of Ireland and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

The validity of the bequest to further the adoption of the new alphabet is being contested in court by the parties concerned.

DA VINCI RETURNS

Amateur artist, Mrs. Irene Martin Giles, claims that in her portrait of Christ which she painted recently, she was guided by the spirit of famous Italian artist Leonardo da Vinci who died over 400 years ago.

Mrs. Giles has done a dozen religious paintings in the last ten years with the help of Leonardo da Vinci.

Mr. Frank Salisbury, a leading British artist, who saw her work said, "It certainly has a touch of Leonardo da Vinci about it."

If the living ones don't inspire Mrs. Giles, at least the dead ones do.

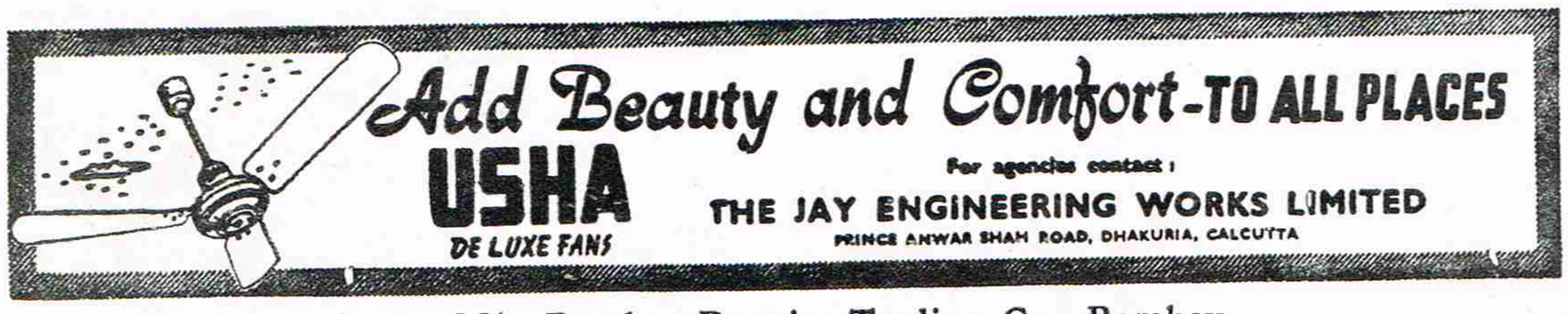
HONEYMOON PERFUME

France's reputation for the world's loveliest perfumes is so old that it has now become a part of the country's ancient culture and traditions. The French monarchs were great connoisseurs of perfumes and they often got special ones made for their sweethearts to express their love. Every new sweetheart was welcomed with a new fragrance that added a different thrill to the affair. The formulas of these perfumes were closely guarded secrets as the prestige of the perfumers was involved in their manufacture without mentioning the pride of the princely lovers.

History, as recorded by the Duke of Saint Simon in his 'Memoirs' refers to an interesting perfume incident when Louis XIV, the le'Grand Monarque of France, married Maria Theresa of Spain. When she landed on the Pheasant Island, on the eve of her marriage, the French delegates sent to meet her, presented her many gifts. But the one Maria Theresa liked most was a special perfume manufactured for this occasion. This perfume was adopted later not only by the Queen but by the entire court.

For the second time in the history of European court life, the chemists of 'Carven Parfums' hit upon a radiant perfume and presented it to charming Grace Kelly when she married Prince Rainier III of Monaco at Monte Carlo on April 18. And Grace has over 200 bottles of this fine 'Carven Parfum' to give to her close friends.

Let us hope the perfume helps Grace to cover the odour of vice and wine which her vagabond prince will bring to her honeymoon bed.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JOURNEY BEYOND

Hypnosis has received a new impetus in America with the best seller, "The Search For Bridey Murphy" written by Virginia Tighe of Colorado—where the authoress describes correctly her past birth as a 19th century housewife in Belfast under the effect of hypnosis—taking the nation to a high pitch of excitement.

Now everyone, young and old —from students to professors, from housewives to actresses, from businessmen to politicians —is anxious to be hypnotized and brought back to a previous life. In U.S. it is estimated that only one person in 100 has been hypnotized while not more than one out of four has seen another human being hypnotised. And yet the present craze for being hypnotised is just overwhelming.

Though hypnotism had its early roots in a mesh of myth and facts when hypnotists like Svengali and Mesmer were considered as quacks, this fascinating science today has gained more respectability and many skilful hypnotists have used it devastatingly on their patients and cured them of various mental and physical ailments.

Research on hypnosis is being carried on at Yale University by two psychiatrists, Drs. Robert Rubenstein and Richard Newman, who have done experiments on patients and found them capable of "living out" future experiences. For instance, a medical student under hypnosis described an operation he would perform after ten years.

In Britain, hypnosis has achieved a medical status for the rather strict British Medical Association found it to be valuable after thorough investigation and has officially sanctioned it. In U.S., however, it has not yet got complete approval of the medical profession. Dr. Lewis R. Wolberg of New York, a well-known psychiatrist and an authority on hypnosis says, "What are needed at this time are protective laws which would restrict the use of hypnotherapy to members of the medical profession in the same way that drugs and narcotics are restricted to prescription administered under medical supervision."

BULL'S-EYE

Dr. C. J. Dewhurst, a British gynaecologist, has perfected the technique of predicting the sex of the unborn child. He tried this technique on 20 women, all between the 32nd and 36th weeks of pregnancy. A sample of the fluid surrounding the unborn child was syringed off and then examined microscopically for the determination of sex. From 13 of the women, suitable fluid samples were obtained and Dr. Dewhurst predicted the sex correctly in all the 13 cases.

As the test may cause premature births, Dr. Dewhurst feels that the test cannot be developed for general use.

But then human curiosity can hardly afford to be quiet for nine months and such tests allay the anxiety of parents.

HER TICKING HEART

At the 8th Annual Scientific Assembly of the American Academy of General Practice, heart specialists of Georgetown University Medical Centre, gave a historic public demonstration of curable heart disease with the help of 15 cured patients. Xray pictures and coloured films of ingenious operations and different heart abnormalities were shown.

One of the most interesting patients was Miss Martina Hall, 34, of Washington who has "worn" a plastic valve in her aorta—the body's largest artery —in place of her diseased one for the last three years. Martina was the first such patient in the whole world. Over a microphone she demonstrated the eerie clicking sound made by a little plastic ball that moves back and forth within the valve every time her heart beats.

When a doctor asked her if she minded the clicking sound, she replied, "It doesn't bother me, but it would bother me if I didn't hear it."

WHISKEY TESTS

An interesting commercial television programme from Birmingham recently to show how much reliance can be placed on tests used by police surgeons to decide whether a man accused of a driving offence is drunk or not, proved the limitations of medical men clearly.

Four subjects were put through various tests for drunkness such as reciting tongue twisters and doing various excercises. One of the four was asked to do the tests as well as he could. He was then given a single whisky. Another one was given one whiskey and asked to pretend nervousness. The third was given whisky and a pep drug capsule and told to do as well as he could. The last one had eight whiskies.

Following the tests, two of the three physicians declared that the eight-whiskey man was sober. One said he was drunk. The man who had one drink was declared drunk by two doctors. One doctor out of the three passed the verdict of drunkenness on subjects three and four.

SOMETHING WONDERFUL HAPPENS

when you change to OATINE SNOW

Protect the freshness of your skin all day long by using Oatine Snow. It is healthy—it protects—it beautifies.

TEA HELPS TEETH

A U.S. scientist who had conducted experiments with rats on a tea-containing diet found that tea prevented the decay of teeth. He, therefore, recommended that all children should be given unsweetened tea from the age of one. Of course, children should drink a good quantity of milk as well.

The scientist said that tea had a relatively high content of fluorine, a tooth decay delaying chemical.

Let us hope our Indian mothers who believe in the conventional milk diet for little children take this tip seriously.

SAVING BABIES

Some U.S. scientists of the U.S. Public Health Service, Washington, D.C., headed by Dr. Herman M. Kalckar, have found an effective test to diagnose galactosemia, a blood disease which kills thousands of new-born babies who can't tolerate milk in any form. A few who live through usually become imbecile or develop blinding cataracts.

The theory is that there is an unknown enzyme in the red blood cells which converts galactose into glucose. Babies suffering from the disease are found lacking in this enzyme. So the doctors say they should be put on a milk-free diet and helped to grow normally. Dr. Kalckar can diagnose the disease with the help of an ultra-violet spectrophotometer and a couple of chemicals. The test will be soon made available to doctors. Said Dr. Kalckar, "Take him off milk at once.... This is one sure cure, if caught in time, and the child's recovery will be miraculous."

CREATING LIFE

Dr. Severo Ochoa of the New York University College of Medicine reported to the American Society of Biological Chemists that he had created a synthetic virus entirely out of chemicals.

Dr. Severo is now searching for a 'host' in which the virus could proliferate. If this is found then scientists would have achieved one of the greatest goals of biological science —creation of life in a test-tube. Viruses are the simplest of entities than can be called 'living'.

A NEW HOPE

Dr. Charles C. Price, Director of the John Harrison Laboratory of Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, U.S., has developed a new drug — chloroquine mustard — which he regards as "one of the most promising compounds for cancer treatment yet developed."

The new drug is a combination of nitrogen mustard, the poison gas developed for war and one of the newer drugs that combat malaria. This combination makes the drug act quickly on tumour with less bad effects. Experiments with the new drug have been carried out on mice and a few human beings with hopeful results.

Only when their men are different can two women meet each other in such an affectionate embrace. In all other circumstances you see the cats with their nails out ready for the fray. Let us see over whom Nimmi and Nirupa Roy are so happy in "Bhai Bhai", a thrilling social tale produced by AVM now entertaining the nation.

WRONG RECORDS

According to statistics furnished by the United Nations Demographic Year Book 1954, the number of people in the world increased faster than ever before in the five years ending 1954.

The world population reached the peak figure of 2652 million in mid 1954. Over half of this population lives in Asia. The record for the world's largest population was held by China with 582 million, followed by India with 377 million, the Soviet Union 214 million, United States 162 million, Japan 88 million, Indonesia 81 million and Pakistan 80 million. Asia's population increased by 21 million a year. Venezuela, Ceylon and Mexico were the fastest population growing countries.

As regards life expectancy in England and Wales men have a life expectancy of 67.3 years of birth and women 72.44 years. U.S. figures are slightly lower while in India they are 31.66 years for men and 32.45 years for women.

India had the second highest illiteracy percentage in the whole world—82.1%, Haiti being the highest with 89.4%. Argentina had one of the lowest —13%.

So we can claim at least two seconds—in the strength of our population and our illiteracy!

CHEAP FLYING

West Germany has begun production on the 'People's plane' after her world success with 'Volkswagen'—the people's car.

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The 'Volkswagen of the air', a two-seater, is likely to cost 14,000 marks though an improved version might cost 12,000 to 13,000 marks.

By next year, the rich, fashionable folks will monopolize these planes.

FAKE RICE

The Central Food Technological Research Institute of India has now perfected the technique of producing synthetic rice. The Institute has ordered a specially designed plant from Switzerland with a capacity of two cwt. per hour.

The synthetic rice is manufactured from a mixture of tapioca (85 per cent) and groundnut flour (15 per cent). The latter makes up for the protein deficiency in the tuber. A small percentage of wheat is also added for flavour. It is also treated with calcium caseinate to enhance the nutritional value of the product.

Synthetic rice cooks faster than ordinary rice. This is an advantage at high altitudes.

So far Rs. 3.15 lakhs have been spent in three years on these experiments. The Ministry of Finance has sanctioned another Rs. 2.5 lakhs for this project during 1956-57.

This is an age of synthetic products and even rice has become a victim of synthesis. So long as it fills the main cavity, let us not worry whether it is synthetic or sympathetic.

DOUBLE QUICK

Dr. Malcolm C. Henry, a U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps chemist, described the possibility of instant artificial ripening of green fruits and vegetables through radiation at a meeting of the American Chemical Society in Dallas, Texas, U.S.

The instant ripening clue came during research to sterilise foods with a beam of electrons from a two-million electron volt Van de Graaf accelerator. This radiation produced the same kind of chemical changes in certain fruits as occur when the fruit ripens naturally.

Thus in shipping green fruit there is less risk of spoilage and damage on the way. If irradiated at the destination, the fruit can also retain its fresh flavour.

Let us hope they don't use radiation for the quick maturity of women.

LINKING UP

The Soviet Antarctic expedition sent in connection with the international geophysical year established direct radio communication between the Antarctic and the Arctic.

The Soviet base at Mirny on the Knox coast in the Antarctic was thus in touch with Barentsburg, a township on the Arctic island of Spitsbergen.

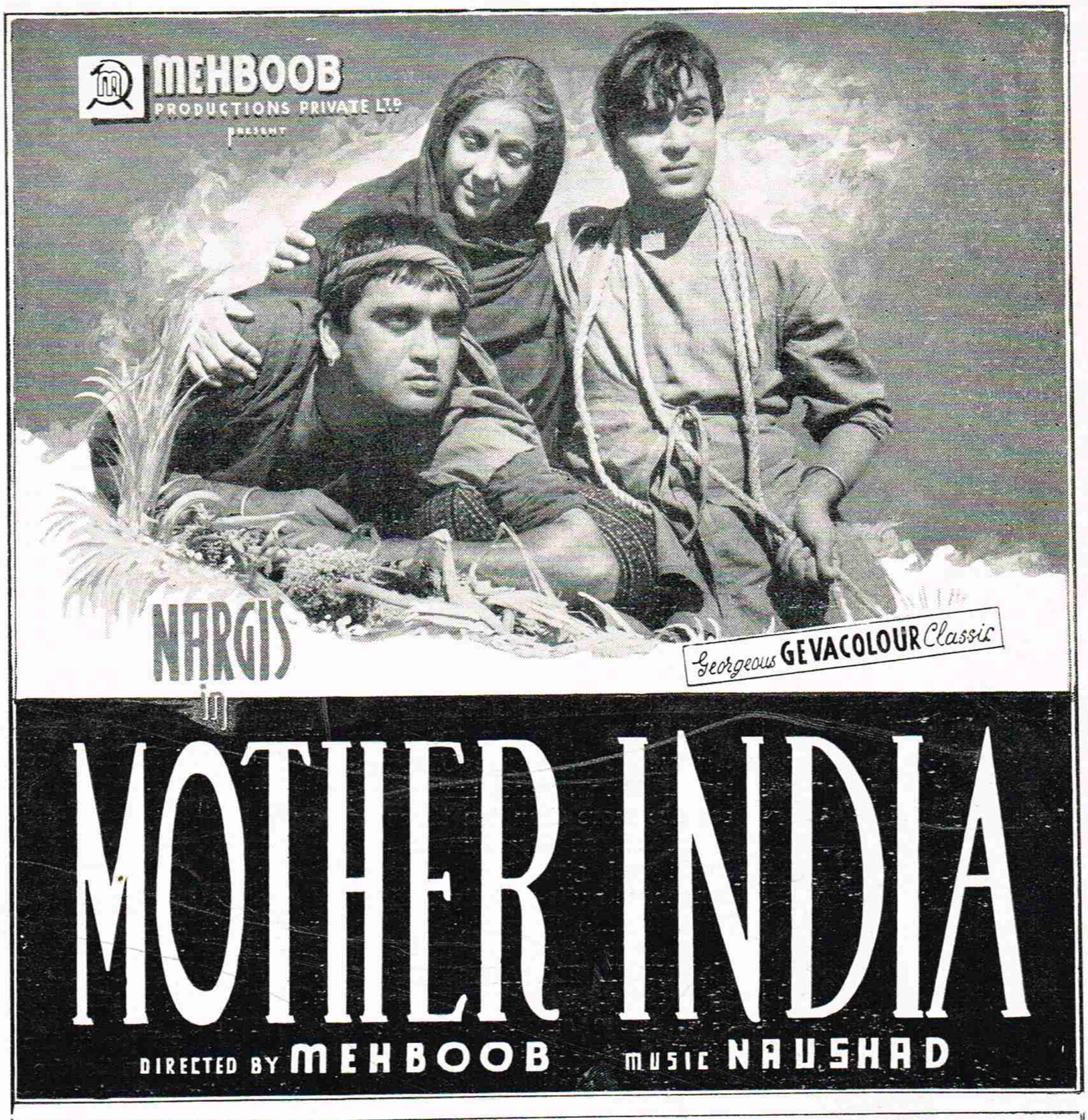
This spanning of the globe by wireless from south to north was achieved within hundred days after the expedition landed there.

According to Tass, the Soviet news agency, "Preparations are being made to establish two scientific stations and a number of bases. The first overland march into the inner Antarctic regions is in progress."

NEW GHOSTS

The Archaeological Department of the Madhya Pradesh Government undertook excavations at Sirpur, a village about 45 miles away from Bilaspur. The excavations have thrown new light on several details regarding the life and conditions in ancient Mahakoshal.

This ancient township was founded in the last quarter of the 5th century A.D. during the reign of the Sarabhapura rulers. The most prolific period in the history of Sirpur was the reign of the Pandava King Balarjuna when Mahayana Buddhism was introduced on a large scale. Several monasteries and temples of this period have already been unearthed in Sirpur. After Bal-



arjuna, the city was built over at least twice.

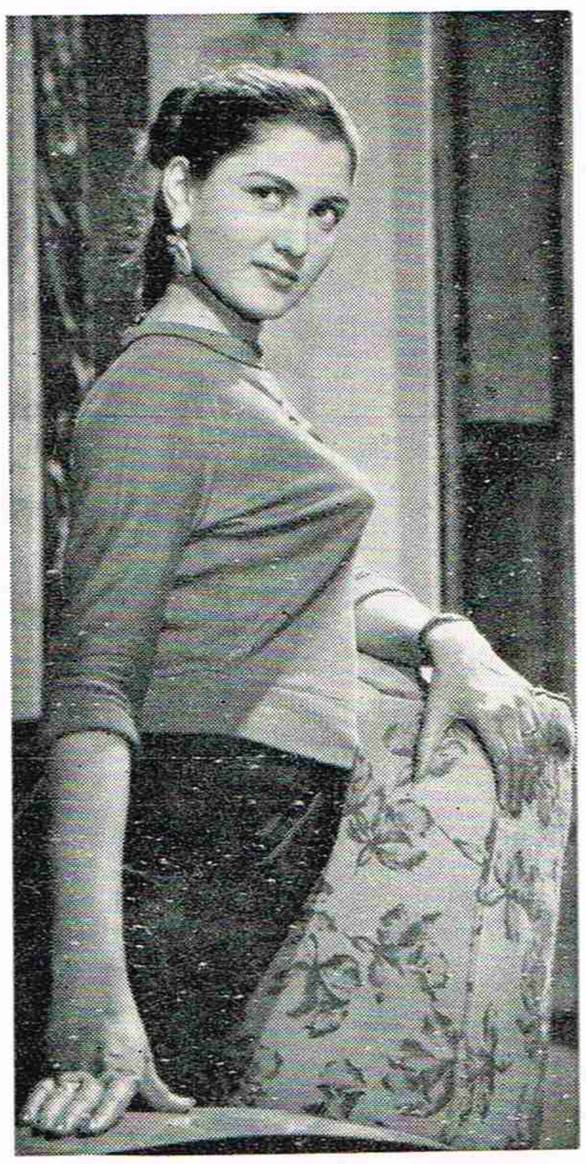
Another notable discovery is a large size image of Prajna-Paramita, a goddess sacred to Mahayanists and a number of Buddha statues.

The Department will now do excavations at Bilaspur and Durg districts.

ANALYSIS OF DEATH

Japanese scientist Professor Sietaro Koyama of Niigata University said that from an analysis made of the radio-active rain falling in the Niigata City area on March 21 and March 22 following the hydrogen bomb explosion tested by Russia, he found entirely different substances from those obtained in similar tests in the past.

In past tests Prof. Sietaro found an abundance of Neptunium 239 and Uranium 237. The ratio of Strontium to Barium in old radio-active fall-out was between 1|3 to 1|10. In the new analysis there was the same amount or even more Strontium as compared with Barium. In addition Rubidium 86, a rare element, hitherto not detected, existed up to 20% in every sample taken.



This picture is dedicated to Pandit Nehru, the supreme protector of Indian culture. This is what we have got after nine years of his rule and guidance. The Tensings who conquer these heights are also enemies of our ancient culture. See what Shashikala is doing with all that in "Aakhri Kadam", a social entertainer.

So Prof. Sietaro concluded that the hydrogen bomb made by the Soviet Union consisted of Thorium 232 a lighter element than Plutonium 239 or Uranium 235. The Thorium-type H Bomb is cheaper and more destructive than the Uranium-type H Bomb. "Thorium resources are more than ten times as abundant as Uranium in the world and gives off far more dangerous radio-activity", added Prof. Sietaro Koyama.

UNDER-SEA ACTIVITY

With the success of atom-powered submarines like the famous 'Nautilus' and the "Sea Wolf", the minute atom is being harnessed for mighty purposes. America is planning seven more atomic submarines while Britain is working on atom-powered ships. They may be in operation by 1965 while by 1970, nuclear power units will be in use in a good number of British merchant vessels. British firms which are conducting work on this problem are Vickers, Rolls-Royce and the Hawker Siddeley group. A new company — Richardsons Westgrath Atomic —has been formed with a capital of £250,000.

CONTROLLING THEM

Canada's Department of Transport ordered $5,000,000 worth of long-range radar equipment from Raytheon Manufacturing Company to be used in 15 important Canadian airports from Moncton to Vancouver.

Radar is particularly desirable where jet liners which fly past at a speed of 500 miles an hour are in vogue. The system will get going in 1958. Its advantages are that it will prevent the speedy jets from colliding and from overrunning the slower, propeller-driven aircraft.

ONE MORE

The latest model of the Bristol Britannia turbo-prop airliner, known as the 310, will soon make her first flight.

This airliner can fly a 6000-mile range across the Atlantic, non-stop in either directions, under all sorts of weather conditions. It weighs 76 tons and cruises at 415 miles per hour. Operating costs are 30% lower than for a jet plane of similar ability.

FLYING INDIANS

The half-yearly report on Civil Aviation in India during the second half of 1955 reveals a decided increase in the mileage flown and in the freight and mails carried by Indian air services.

The total miles flown by Indian air carriers on scheduled and non-scheduled air services increased from 12.7 million in the first half of 1955 to an estimated 13.9 million in the second half of 1955 while the freight and mails carried increased from 90,320,218 lbs and 4,987,154 lbs to 96,678,400 lbs and 6,629,253 lbs respectively in the corresponding period.

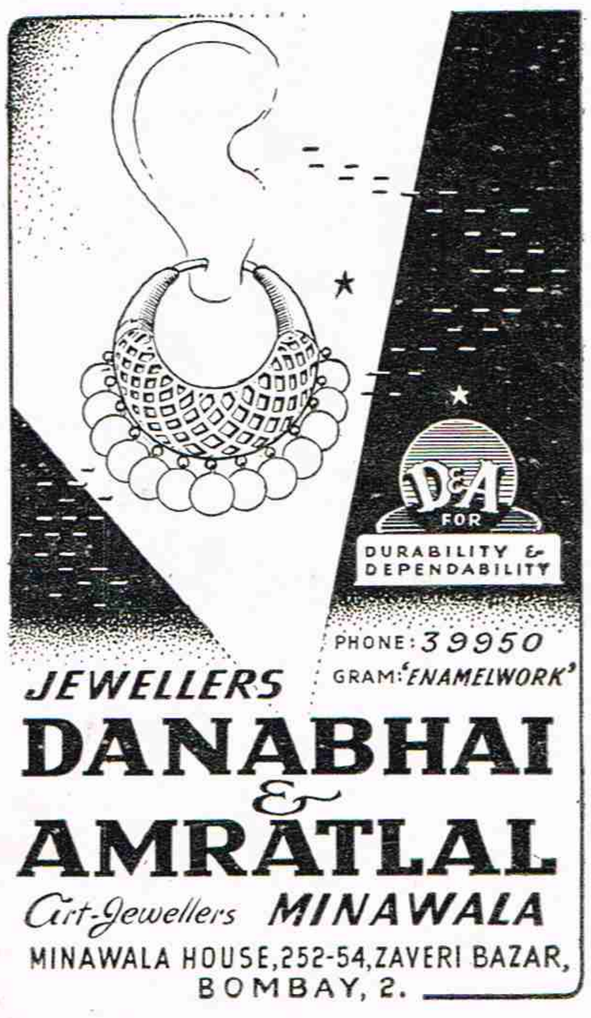
The Indian Airlines Corporation acquired three Skymasters increasing this type of aircraft to 6. It also placed orders for 5 four-engined Viscount turbo-airliners during this period. A feeder service on the Delhi-Bikaner - Jodhpur - Ahmedabad-Rajkot route was introduced with four-engined Heron aircraft.

The night air mail services of IAC carried 13,524 passengers, 761,282 lbs of freight and 1,878,543 lbs of mails against 10,195 passengers, 563,968 lbs of freight and 1,722,705 lbs of mails during the first half of 1955.

At the end of December 1955, there were 81 aerodromes, with a new completed aerodrome at Chandigarh. There were 12 subsidised flying clubs in India with a new club at Indore under the subsidy scheme, at the end of December 1955. Twenty-seven additional aeronautical radio facilities were brought into operation during this period bringing the total number of facilities at the end of December of 1955 to 530.

During this period, there were 13 major accidents to Indian registered aircraft 11 of which occurred in India and two outside India.

Thought makes a woman's face and Shyama's has become dull. Shyama must seek some bright and intellectual company to get back the old sparkle. In the meantime let us see what she is doing in "Bhai Bhai" produced by Meiyappan Chettiar for AVM Productions.



BANGKOK
LAND OF HINDU HANGOVER

Classical Thai drama, takes its inspiration from ancient Sanskrit drama and combines dialogue, music, chorus-singing and dancing to become an appealing art. The artistes use rich, colourful costumes and their gestures, of course, have a language.

★

See the world before you leave it!

Politics has a knack of bestowing quick fame upon places no less than personalities. Thanks to politics, a little-known Korea becomes a well-known name, a little pimple called Goa becomes an internationally-known problem, a tiny island sheltering a tinier fugitive becomes the famous Formosa, an obscure town becomes the historic Bandung. Politics has now begun to bestow fame upon Bangkok, the capital of Thailand.

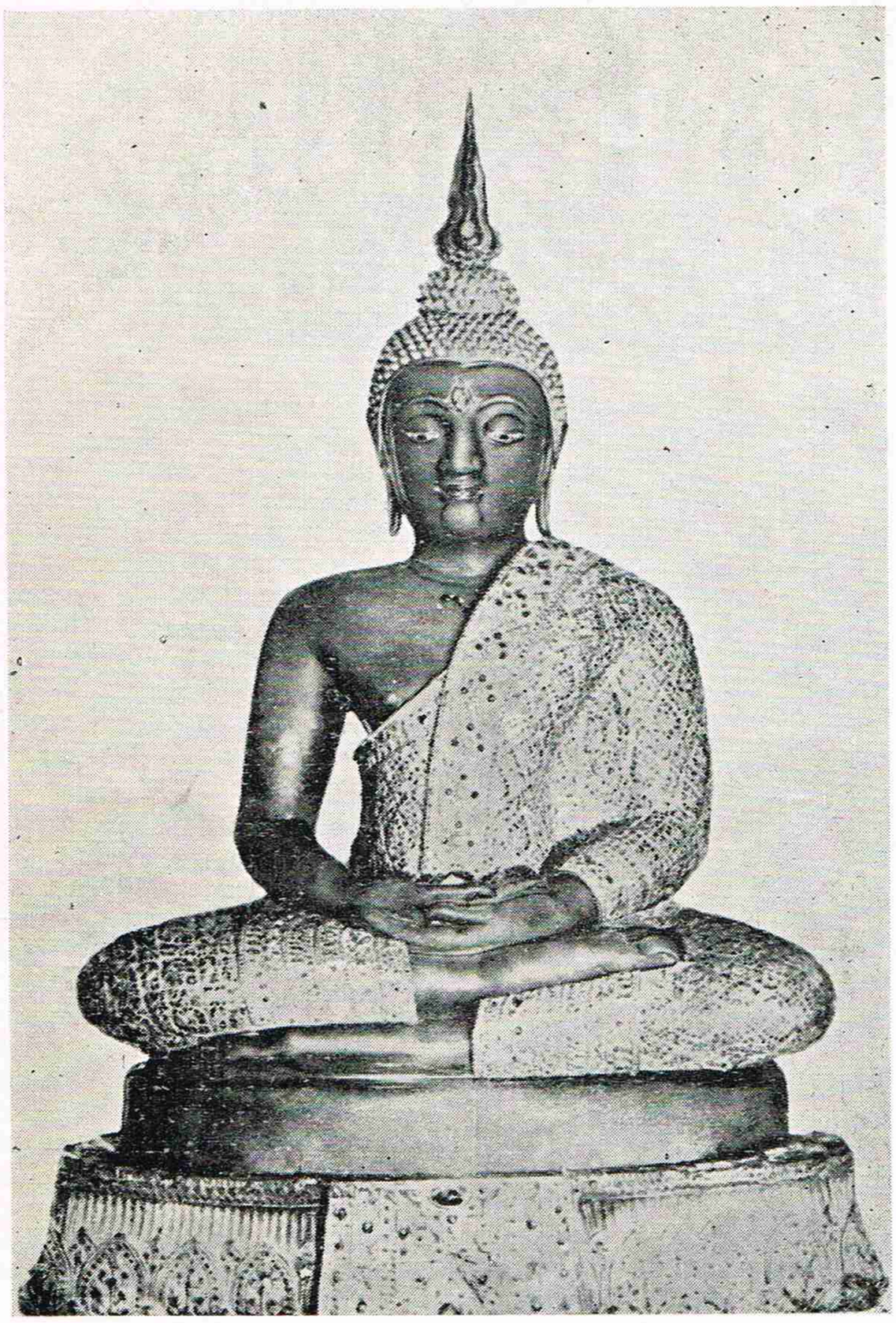
An important city in its own right, Bangkok has acquired greater importance since last year when it became the headquarters of that notorious alliance called the South East Asia Treaty Organization. And while formerly Bangkok was only the cultural and administrative centre of Thailand, it is now also one of the nerve-centres of international politics.

To believe in Buddhism at home and cold war politics abroad does seem strange, but Thailand seems to be quite a versatile country. Once it freely absorbed much of Indian culture and thought, and today it is equally freely absorbing the American trouble-shooter Dulles' political whispers. Thailand, or Siam as it has been traditionally called, has a long tradition of national independence but its people have never enjoyed the real freedom which is a handmaid of democracy. An absolute monarchy throughout its history, the country is now a constitutional monarchy.

Perched on the Indo-Chinese peninsula, Thailand is surrounded on three sides by Burma, Laos and Cambodia and on the fourth presents an open face to the Gulf of Siam which on the map looks like a private pond of the Malay and Indo-Chinese peninsulas. A portion of Thailand extends down the Malay peninsula in the south, and it is the Malay peninsula, jutting out deep into the water and looking like a beef carcass, that gives Thailand geographically a backwater look throwing it away from the world's principal shipping routes. And Bangkok, which lies 20 miles from the Gulf of Siam, unlike Aden, Colombo or Singapore, cannot be visited by sea-travellers by merely making a halt on the voyage. A sea-traveller goes to Bangkok only when Bangkok is his specific destination.

Nobody seems to have seriously bothered to trace the early history of Thailand, while its pre-history is wrapped in thicker darkness. But across the country there is found evidence to show the Hindu influence over Thailand in its early periods. There are numerous temples built in the styles of the Buddhist architecture of India, and there are names taken from the Hindu mythology. One such name is Ayudhya, a city north of Bangkok. Ayudhya was established as the capital of Siam in 1350 by King Uthong regarded as the first Siamese king who ruled over a consolidated Siam. The country's rule remained in the hands of Uthong's dynasty for 200 years. But later the throne was snatched by Phya Tak, a Chinese general, who shifted the capital to Bangkok and ruled till 1782 when he was overthrown by his Prime Minister whose dynasty ruled Siam for several years in succession.

Siam's relations with the French and the English, who had possessions in Siam's neighbourhood, date back to the 17th century, while her trade with India and China dates back to the beginning of the Christian era. The French and the English, true to their greedy traditions, harassed Siam considerably and extorted many trade and territorial concessions from the little country, although her independence was not imperilled and she was allowed to remain a buffer state between the French and



The Emerald Buddha, 60 cm. high, is actually an image cut out of a single piece of translucent jasper of greenish colour. The headdress of the image is made of pure gold and is studded with jewels. The image is draped in different attires during the summer, winter and the monsoon. Here it is draped in the rainy season attire.

British possessions. In recent history a most successful ruler of Siam was King Chulalongkorn. Upon his death in 1910, he was succeeded by his son Vajiravudh or Rama VI. Vajiravudh's brother, Prajadhipok ascended the throne in 1925. In 1932, however, a 'coup d'etat' was carried out in order to limit the powers of the king and oblige him to be a constitutional monarch. That year the country got a constitution, a People's Assembly, a State Council, and since then, at least in theory, "the supreme power rests with the people."

KING SHOT DEAD

On Prajadhipok's abdication in 1935, the young Ananda Mahidol was proclaimed the king. But the king, a minor then, went to Lausanne for his education and when after the World War II he returned to Siam, he was found dead in his bed with a bullet hole in his head on June 9, 1946. The then Premier, Pridi Phanomyong, announced that the king had accidentally killed himself, but a year later Pibul Songgram led a military 'coup d'etat' taking over the Premiership himself, and accused Pridi of the king's murder. Pridi fled from the country reportedly to lead a rebel "Free Thai" movement, and leaving the country in the hands of Field-Marshal Pibul Songgram who has ever since been guiding the destiny of Thailand.

The character of Thailand's politics is said to be quite corrupt. But that is no wonder seeing the limited, make-shift democracy the country is provided with. The National Assembly, the chief legislature, is half filled with nominated members. Critics of the government and budding politicians, however, get a chance to open their mouths wide in the Phra Meru Grounds at Bangkok. But the speakers generally cannot tell criticism from libel, the police-vigilance from vindictiveness, and the courts sometimes, it is said, justice from guesswork. Some time ago, a public meeting in Phra Meru Grounds produced, instead of words, lethal weapons and many landed in hospital. After that the Siamese began to wonder if it was proper to call their Phra Meru Grounds, the Hyde Park of Thailand.

PICTURESQUE PLACE

But leaving aside its politics and politicians, Thailand is quite an eye-catching land. Containing a mountainous region in the north-west, a vast fertile area in the centre where the country grows its chief food, rice, and dense forests in the narrow southern strip of the country, Thailand is a typically oriental land dotted throughout with thousands of temples that throw up a crowd of colourful and gleaming spires making the skyline of Thailand a picturesque affair. With about 16,500 temples spread over an area of 200,148 square miles, the country looks a vast storehouse of temples and does strike one as 'the land of Buddhism'. The climate is moderate and apart from rice fields in the fertile plains, the country grows apple-trees, peaches and raspberries in the highlands. Plantations of coconut and areca palm are abundant, while Thailand is said to be the largest producer of teak wood. Fishing and tin-mining are flourishing industries, and there is a developing rubber industry.

Bangkok, situated on the River Menam, 20 miles from where it flows into the Gulf of Siam, is a big, colourful city presenting an appearance of contrast with its ancient temples and palaces and modern multi-storeyed buildings and tram and car dotted roads. Seat of Thailand's government and the hub of the country's cultural, commercial and administrative life, Bangkok claims to be the largest city in South-East Asia. The area of the city of Bangkok is about 15 sq. miles, and including the suburbs it contains more than a million inhabitants.

Among the sights in Bangkok are the Grand Palace, which situated by the river and covering an area of over one square mile, is in size a small walled city looking picturesque with its colourful, glistening spires and its sloping multi-tiered coloured roofs.

The Marble Temple, with its multi-tiered roofs of colourful tiles and its tapering gable-mouldings of skilfully carved wood is one of the finest examples of modern Thai religious architecture.

Inside the Grand Palace there is the Emerald Buddha, a 60 cm. high image cut out of a single piece of translucent, greenish coloured jasper. There is the Standing Buddha (32 m. high) at Indra Vihara Temple, the Great Swing at Wat Suthat in the centre of Bangkok, the National Parliament whose ceilings are decorated with some fine paintings. The Marble Throne Hall, where the first Council meeting of the South East Asia Collective Defence Treaty was held in February 1955, is an imposing sight. Built in white marble that was imported from Italy, the Throne Hall was inaugurated by King Vajiravudh in 1917.

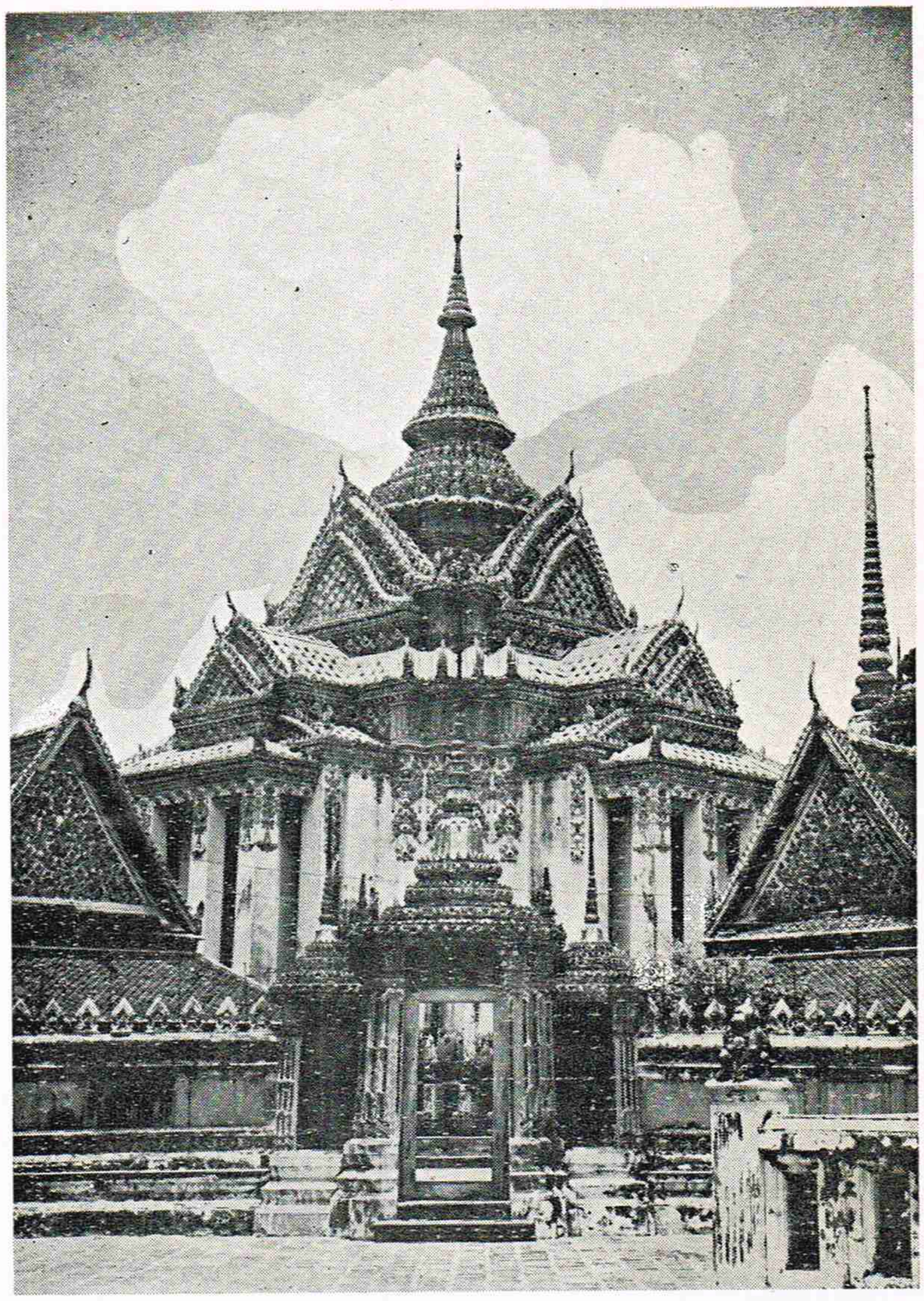
Thammasart University on Chao Phya River is a well laid-out and impressive sight. There is also the Chulalongkorn University. Chaisamoraphum Monument is a modern monument to victory. Another sight is the statue of King Yodfah, the founder of the present dynasty. The statue stands at the foot of the Memorial Bridge that spans the Chao Phya River. The Floating Market is an interesting place where fish, fruits and vegetables are bought and sold in boats. Then there is the National Museum, the National Library, the Sra Pratoon Palace, the Chitra Ada Palace, the National Stadium, the Democracy Monument, and Wat Benchamabopit which built in marble from Carrara is one of the most beautiful temples in Bangkok. In all there are about 300 temples in Bangkok.

HANGOVER OF HINDUISM

Away from Bangkok, there is the big Bang Pa-in Palace in Ayudhya, the Phra Pathom Chedi, the biggest Pagoda in Thailand with a height of 115 metres, the Phra Buddha Jinaraj at Pitsanuloke, a famous temple said to be over 600 years old, the Srichum Temple at Sukhotai, and the Tapanhin Temple at the same place.

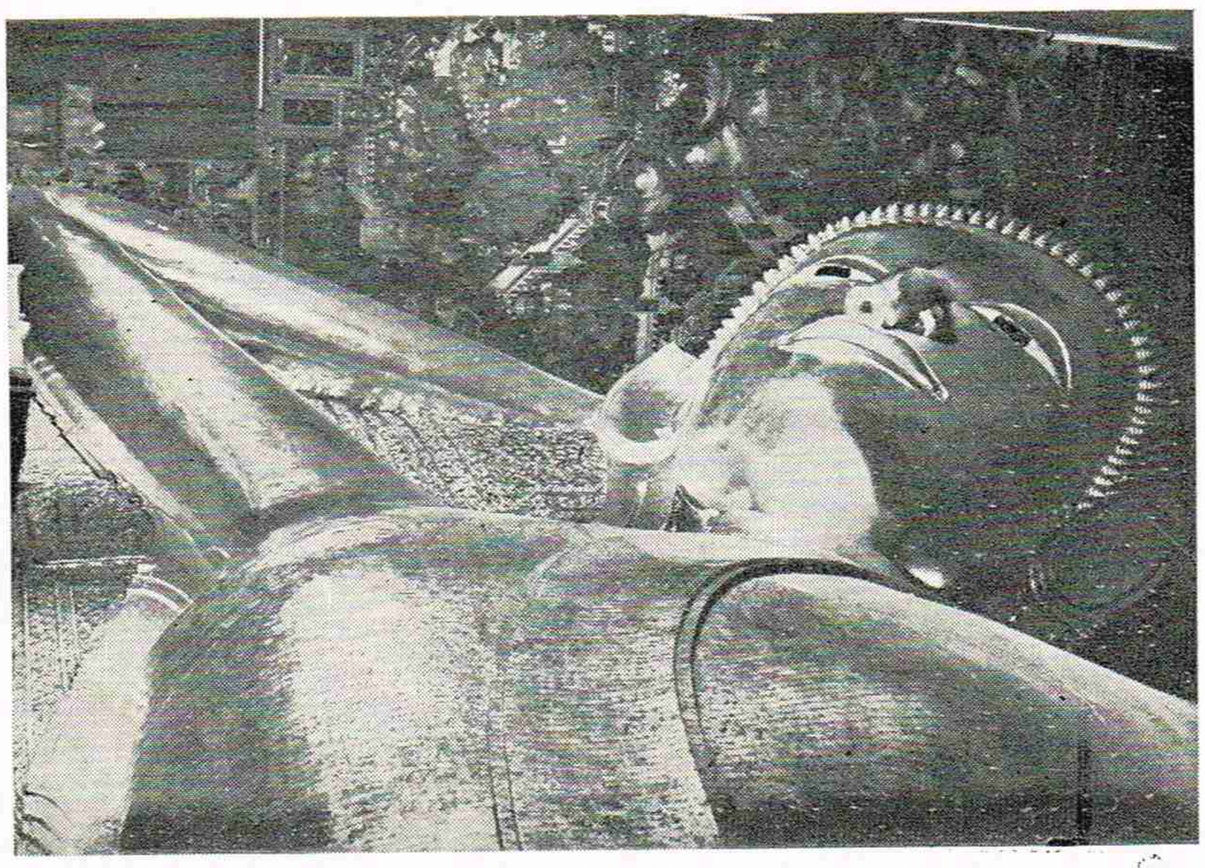
Temples and Buddha images are, of course, the main attraction for the tourist in Thailand. But side by side with the temples big modern buildings have sprung up and the country's march with the times can be seen in much of Bangkok that wears a modern look. The Bangkok harbour, Bangkok's Don Muang airport, said to be the best in the Far East, the Chulalongkorn hospital, one of the finest in the Far East, and Rajadamnern Avenue, tell a new tale of a new Thailand.

The majority of Thailand's population is Siamese, while the rest is comprised of Laotians, Chinese, Malays, Cambodians and Burmese, The prevailing language is Lao and many tales and legends in Siamese literature are of Indian origin. The Thai version of the Indian epic Ramayana is called Ramakian and many scenes from the great epic are depicted in wall-paintings in the gallery of the temple of the Emerald Buddha.



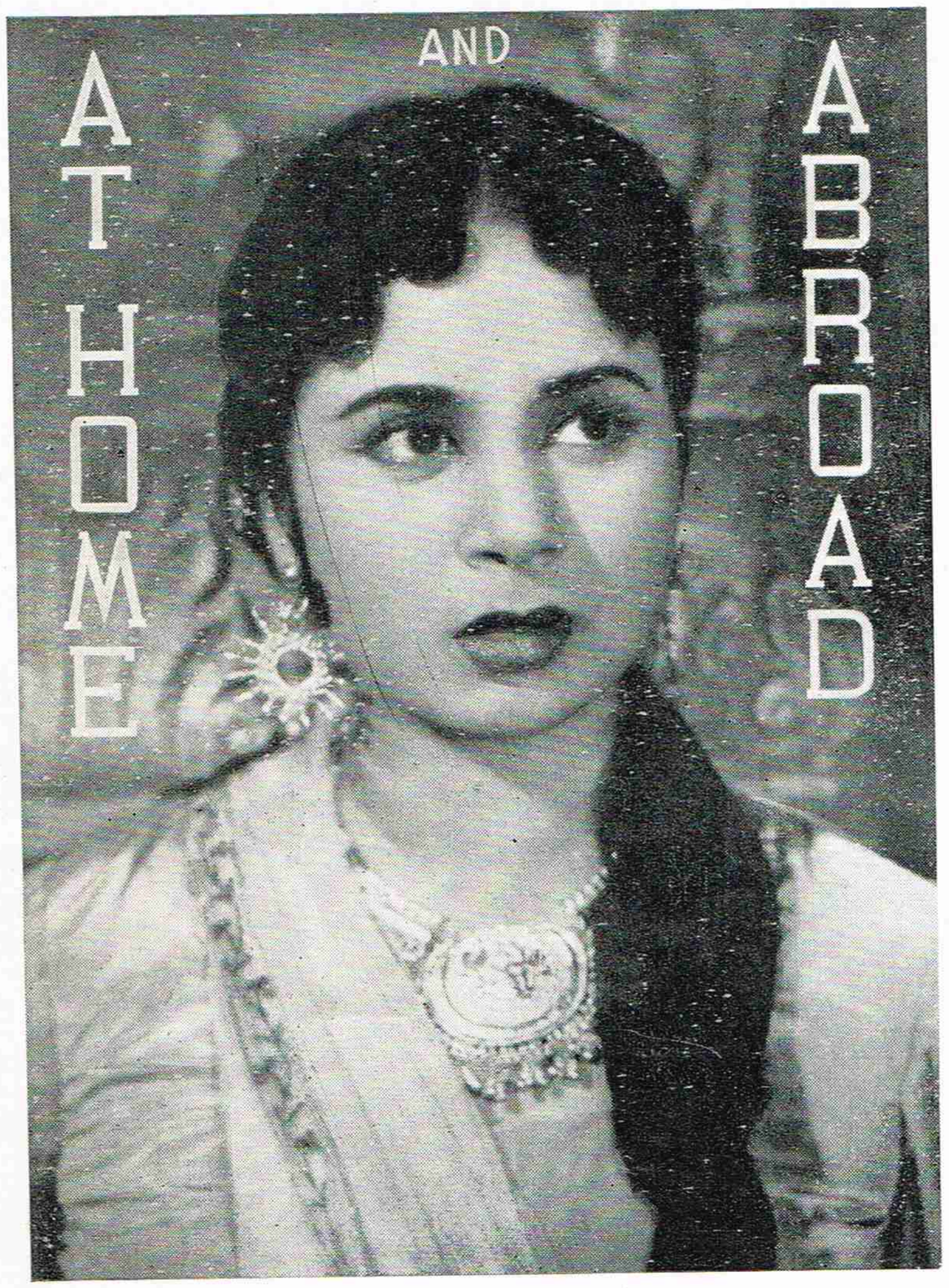
The Temple of the Emerald Buddha situated inside the one-square-mile walled town called the Grand Palace, attracts many devotees as well as visitors.

A close-up of the large image of the Reclining Buddha at Chetupon Temple. The image, 49 metres long, represents the Buddha passing from life into Nirvana.



Thailand is making progress in many spheres, but the emphasis seems to be on defence, and most of the millions of dollars the country receives from the United States are absorbed for that purpose. With Communist guerillas active in the forest-covered border region between Thailand and Malaya, some of the Thai government's anxiety is justified. But Pibul Songgram's government is said to be autocratic and corrupt even by some of his admirers. And then Pibul Songgram is the man who rather overdid his anxiety to have U.S. troops stationed in Thailand and to have U.S. bases in his country. He withdrew his suggestion at the first SEATO council meeting only after Dulles, for his own reasons, took great pains to dissuade Pibul Songgram from exhibiting his love for U.S. arms and armed forces so intensely. Songgram did not know that Americans are in Southeast Asia to play a big game, not just to become Siamese twins with Siamese.

However, SEATO headquarters or not, Bangkok is quite a gay, colourful city presenting a spires-filled sky and offering cool American soft drinks. A centre of an old religion and a nerve-centre of the cold war, it is worth crossing the Gulf of Siam.



When temper perches on a woman's nose, its heat expands her nostrils and makes her look like a cat on a hunt. Geeta Bali is extremely good in passionate scenes and it is worth seeing "Pocket Maar", a crime theme to see her in fast action.

NO CELLULOID

Bangalore, April 15.

Mr. H. M. Channabasappa, Industries Minister, Mysore, announced in the Mysore Legislative Assembly that the Mysore Government had given up the idea of starting a raw film plant in Mysore for good. The decision was taken in consultation with the Planning Commission.

The reasons for this move were that the Government of India had imposed a drastic cut in the Second Five-Year Plan of Mysore. Moreover the Central Government didn't consider the scheme as a public utility project. Even in the Third Five-Year Plan there may not be any provision for the raw film factory.

A raw film factory in India would save us a very large amount in valuable foreign exchange considering that India produces over 250 feature films a year, not to speak of government documentaries and newsreels. And the Government earns some crores by way of entertainment tax from these films. Only recently a delegation of East German film experts had visited Mysore to study the possibilities of installing a raw film factory there.

It is a pity that all these facts have been ignored by the Government owing to its short-sighted policy. It just refuses to see beyond its nose and its nose is so short.

WHITE YANKEES

Birmingham, U.S., April 20.

Popular Negro band leader, Nat King Cole, was attacked by six white men when he was singing his second number with the British Ted Heath's orchestra on the stage of the Municipal auditorium at Birmingham, Alabama, on the night of April 10. They rushed suddenly at Nat and knocked him and the microphone on the floor. The attackers were immediately arrested by the policemen before they could injure Nat.

On April 18, Judge Ralph E. Parker convicted three of the accused men of attacking Negro singer Nat King Cole and ordered them jail sentences for maximum terms of 180 days each. A fourth one, Jesse W. Mabry, 43, an associate editor of a Citizens' Council publication, was also sentenced to 180 days' imprisonment for conspiring to commit a breach of peace and disorderly conduct.

Judge Ralph E. Parker said that the attack "could have resulted in untold tragedy". He was also pleased that the entertainer "conducted himself in a way as to earn the respect of his white friends".

Blind hatred and prejudice towards the Negroes have made some of the whites in the southern States almost inhuman. But there is still something like justice to uphold the cause of the underdog.

HER FIRST ESSAY

Ahmedabad, April 19.

Mr. Sumantrai Bhatt, District and Sessions Judge of Ahmedabad, granted divorce to Mr. Narayan Kevalchand from film actress Sheila Fatehchand Ramani.

Mr. Narayan Kevalchand was married to Sheila in October 1952 under the Special Marriage Act but she refused to lead a married life with him since that time.

Mr. Sumantrai Bhatt, while granting the divorce, said, "the petitioner had not led a married life with his wife and this fact is admitted by both the parties. The wife has advised the petitioner not only to seek divorce but also to get married."

That leaves Sheila Ramani a free woman, to have another fling at marriage.

ICEBERG BLONDE

Hollywood, April 20.

Pretty Swedish blonde actress Anita Ekberg, 24, announced her engagement to 35-year-old British actor Anthony Steel.

In her interview mentioning this happy event, Anita incidentally recalled that it was wrong for people to call her "Ekberg the Iceberg", for, "Our blood is warm, not like that of thin-blooded Latins, who live in warm countries and have no energy. I used to swim in Sweden as late as November, when there was a thin crust of ice on the lake."

Well, Anthony will soon touch the 'iceberg' in Anita Ekberg and find out for himself whether it is of the numbing or the scorching variety!

FLEABITE

Bombay, April 19.

The Government of Bombay has exempted performances of the Marathi drama "Sharda" from liability to pay entertainment duty for one year from April 18, 1956. The exemption, however, will not apply to the performances held in aid of funds or institutions not entitled to or eligible for financial assistance from the State.

ROMAN AGAIN

Hollywood, April 9.

Ruth Roman, the 32-year-old film actress, divorced hubby Mortimer Hall, president and general manager of Los Angeles radio station, in Santa Monica, California.

Married for six years, the Halls have one child. Ruth Roman has worked in quite a few Hollywood pictures, some of her popular ones being, "The Bottom Of The Bottle" and "Strangers On A Train".

ONE MORE FANATIC

London, April 22.

Well-known British actor Alec Guinness, recently seen in "The Swan" as Crown Prince Albert, announced that he had embraced the Roman Catholic religion.

This is how it happened. Alec Guinness was doing some religious research for a role in a movie when he got more and more interested in this subject. Said Alec, "It was not a sudden decision. I have been interested for years. I don't know what you'd call this sort of thing. All I can say is that I was Church of England and gradually became kind of nothing."

All religions aim at making the individual happy and contented. As long as Alec finds happiness in his new faith, religion will have served its purpose.

FRIVOLOUS INTERFERENCE

Lucknow, April 16.

The U.P. Government appointed a twelve-man ad hoc committee with Dr. Sita Ram, Deputy Minister of Education, as president to advise and "consider the need for regulating times of cinema exhibitions so as to prevent any undesirable effects on the studies of students in educational institutions and to impose restrictions, if needed, on admission of juveniles to cinema shows including matinees".

Let us see what the Government does with the committee's recommendations.

RABBIT HUNTER

New York, April 11.

Dallas press-agent Paul Mansfield, in a countersuit to a divorce action brought last year by actress-wife Jayne Mansfield, asked for custody of their 5-year-old daughter, Jayne Marie, on the grounds that Jayne was "not a fit and proper person" to look after the little girl.

Jayne is thrilling Broadway audiences at the moment with her vivacious personality measuring 40-21-35½" in "Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?" Jayne contradicted Paul's charges and said, "I take good care of my baby. Everybody knows that. The poor guy has sort of flipped over what's happened to me—he's just one of those people without any drive. He used to tell me, 'the wife stays in the kitchen and the husband goes out and brings back the rabbit skins'. Well, when I saw that Paul wasn't bringing any rabbit skins back, I got out of the kitchen."

"OPEN PLACE" CLOSED

Madras, April 12.

A ruling as to the exact significance of the term "open space" occurring in the Places of Public Resort Act, was given by His Lordship Mr. Justice N. Rajagopala Iyengar, allowing two writ petitions filed on behalf of the proprietor of the Banu Touring Talkies in Jalakantapuram, Salem district.

The petitioner and the proprietor of Sakthi Touring Talkies applied to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Salem, for granting them exemption under Rule 18-A of the Rules framed under the Places of Public Resort Act. The rules specify an open space of 150 feet around a touring cinema hall but the Revenue Divisional Officer was empowered to grant exemption if the "open space" was at least 60 feet all round. The exemption was then granted to both the parties. But the Tahsildar granted licence only to Sakthi Touring Talkies and not to Banu Touring Talkies.

Allowing the petitions, His Lordship observed that the term "open space" should be understood objectively and subjectively. The rules provided for at least 60 feet of open space all round, so that in case of accidents, the public attending the show could move to a place of safety. Therefore, the term "open space" must be understood to mean space without building or trees. In the present case, there were trees within the minimum space specified. In the circumstances, His Lordship held that the grant of exemption by the Revenue Divisional Officer was without jurisdiction, allowed the writ petition and quashed the order of exemption granted. His Lordship also cancelled the licence granted by the Tahsildar to the respondent talkies.

DEEP-DYED DEVIL

New York, April 10.

Robert Schlesinger, the 38-year-old New York playboy who presented jewellery to film actress Linda Christian worth $132,500 and didn't pay the bills, was convicted by a New York court on two counts of grand larceny.

Robert Schlesinger admitted having swindled three of his friends in an oil deal. He was given a five to ten year jail sentence on two counts of grand larceny. The judge, while passing the sentence said, "He is one of the deepest-dyed premeditated thieves that I have met."

HER ST. PAUL

New York, April 10.

American novelist Kathleen Winsor, whose best known

Success adds weight to a personality. Ashok Kumar is very much impressed by Vyjayantimala in "Sitaron se Aagey", a romantic tale produced by Narasu Studios Ltd.

novel "Forever Amber" picturized by Hollywood, made millions of Yankees crazy, has again fallen in love. This time it is Paul A. Porter, a well-to-do 51-year-old lawyer from Washington.

Kathleen, 37, has already had three husbands—Robert Herwig, Artie Shaw and Arnold Krakower—so one more should not make much difference. With her characteristic enthusiasm, Kathleen said, "I plan to really keep house when we settle down....I've been taking cooking lessons for a year and I'm thoroughly domesticated."

The process of domestication in America seems to be an arduous one taking years and husbands in its stride.

MORE SADISM

New Delhi, April 20.

The Congress Working Committee met in New Delhi on April 15 and among other things discussed the question of stricter censorship of films, both Indian and foreign. Dr. B. V. Keskar was also present at the meeting. The members suggested censorship of Indian films at the script stage.

The meeting was a sequel to the protests made some months ago by 64 members of Parliament in a note requesting the Congress Working Committee to recommend to the Government stricter censorship of films in order to "save the younger generation from the evil effects of undesirable films, both foreign and Indian."

We don't know since when the Congress Working Committee, a purely political body, became the nation's conscience keeper. Our white-capped rulers are always quick to arrogate rights to themselves without helping the film industry a wee bit.

LOLLO'S "LOLLIES"

Rome, April 18.

Italian actress Gina Lollobrigida whose passion for lawsuits is well-known by now—she once had ten lawsuits on hand at one time—threatened to sue the producers of her latest Hollywood film "Trapeze" if they distributed a highly retouched publicity photograph of herself, which presented her in the most unglamorous fashion. The photograph was retouched to meet the censorship rules of Hollywood.

Gina retorted: "In the retouched version, I am made to look flat-chested which I am not. I look like Gary Cooper". Gary Cooper, Gina's hero in the picture, however said, "Miss Lollobrigida is a beautiful woman, a fact which all the retouching in the world cannot hide."

We like Gina's spirit. She is

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evidently proud of her womanly glory unsupported by 'falsies'.

CHEATING THE DEAD

New York, April 25.

A New York surrogate at last gave a ruling that the nineteen-word will: "This is my will. If I should die on this, my trip to India, you are my sole heiress." left to Mrs. Marianna Kingman Speelman by Hungarian-born film producer Gabriel Pascal, was "ineffectual".

The five-page decision ruling held that the producer died intestate leaving his property to estranged wife Valarie Pascal and Pascal's brother Eugenio Lehel of Venezuela. These two will thus get a share in the earnings from movie rights to all the plays of the late George Bernard Shaw.

The will was keenly contested for more than a year by the two women concerned, and the brother. Actually in February 1954, Valarie had begun divorce proceedings against her husband, Gabriel Pascal, and he therefore made a will in favour of Mrs. Speelman by scribbling those words on a piece of New York Athletic Club stationery.. He died four months later without making the trip to India.

Valarie is a lucky woman!

RASH YOUTH

Bombay, April 25.

Popular star Nutan was alleged by the police to have driven her car BML 5120 along Ghodbunder Road on Tuesday, April 24, at a speed of 35 to 40 miles while the speed allowed on the road is 30 miles per hour.

Mr. M. M. Dhruva, the magistrate, Bandra court, ordered summons to be issued against Nutan.

AND TAXES, LENNY ?

New York, April 22.

Lenny Ross, a ten-year-old boy from Tujunga, California, won a 100,000-dollar prize in a television quiz programme in New York, after giving correct answers to five complicated fiscal questions. The boy was also presented $2500 worth of any stock he chooses and an investment plan of $40 a month for the next five years by Mr. Keith Fuston, president, New York Stock Exchange.

The overjoyed Lenny said that he would give a part of his money in charity, send his grandma on a trip to Montreal, buy his father some new hi-fidelity recordings and his mother a tape recorder and as for himself he would invest a part of his winnings in a subscription to the "Wall Street Journal".

The boy is a natural gambler.

VALIDATING NUISANCE

Allahabad, April 22.

The Allahabad High Court admitted a writ petition challenging the validity of the bye-laws recently enforced by the Allahabad Municipal Board restricting the use of loudspeakers within the municipal limits.

The petition moved by Rajni Kant Varma, joint secretary of the Allahabad Socialist Party, stated that the bye-laws were ultra vires the Constitution as they infringed the fundamental rights guaranteed under Article 19 of the Constitution. Further the bye-laws were also beyond the scope of Section 298(2) of the U.P. Municipal Act as they imposed a tax for the use of loudspeakers which was not permitted by the U.P. Municipal Act. He prayed that these bye-laws be declared ultra vires and a writ be issued prohibiting the Municipal Board to enforce these bye-laws.

BOGUS FIGURES

New York, April 23.

According to Albert E. Singlinger, a film market analyst, there is a slump in the American film industry. During the last six months, cinemas in U.S. are estimated to have suffered a total operating loss of nearly £3,000,000. Receipts at about £144,500,000 were 20% lower than in the same period last year.

Box-office losses were, however, offset by sales of popcorn, sweets and non-alcoholic drinks in the theatres.

SHAKESPEARE PAYS

Stratford-on-Avon, April 26.

Stratford-on-Avon, the birthplace of William Shakespeare, the immortal English dramatist, has turned out to be a popular place of pilgrimage to admirers all over the world. Over 170,000 people from 85 different coun-

tries—the biggest number being from America—pay their homage to the Bard of Avon all the year round.

All this has resulted in a boosting of the tourist industry with Shakespeare as the biggest single box-office attraction in the world's show business. The Americans alone pour two million dollars into this town every year, a town which has "the old world atmosphere and picturesqueness".

The Shakespeare industry has a million facets and everyone benefits from it—the hotel owner, the cafe owner, the antique shop dealer, the theatre owner, etc.—in fact round everything is woven some little tale or legend to thrill the tourist.

All true lovers of art and drama patronize the great modern Memorial Theatre which is one of the world's most successful theatrical enterprises. Seats for performances are sold days and months in advance.

Recently on April 23, the English people celebrated the birthday of William Shakespeare with great eclat. Thus Stratford-on-Avon has become a great cultural centre and the English should be grateful to Shakespeare for it is his name that helps to sell everything be it a curio or culture in this little town which would normally have remained in oblivion.

Why can't we build up our Gandhi that way? It is Keskar's job but he doesn't know his job.

Oh, that is Helen! She seems to have gone to Madras to give the simple-hearted South Indians a rattling shock. Meet her in "Naya Aadmi", a Jupiter Picture.

"BABIES" IN HEAT

Hollywood, April 16.

The Hungarian-born Gabor family is one of the most enterprising families in Hollywood—at least in the respect of changing husbands.

Actress Magda Gabor, the best-looking among the Gabor sisters, married Arthur Gallucci, 45, a New York building contractor. This is her fourth marriage. Then followed Eva in her footsteps when she brought home a new bridegroom on April 8, a surgeon of Beverly Hills, California. The surgeon, Dr. John Williams is the third one in the Eva series. And last but not least is talkative actress Zsa Zsa Gabor who has chosen for her fourth husband a Los Angeles businessman. Her ex-husbands were a Turkish diplomat, hotel owner Conrad Hilton and film actor George Sanders.

Poor Mama Jolie Gabor is reported to have said, "I am again a little girl alone." But with quick-change artistes for daughters, Mama's spell of solitude may not last long.

COW'S FIGHT

Panama, April 20.

Bullfighter Luis Miguel Dominguin had a harrowing experience of becoming a father for the first time when his charming wife Italian actress, Lucia Bose, delivered a baby boy after a Caesarean operation. The hours of suspense caused endless agony to this brave bullfighter who said, "If I were ever in a bullfight as frightening as that, I'd never fight again." He had never seen a cow fighting.

Anyway Luis is not made of such stern stuff as we imagined.

SOMETHING AT LAST

Bombay, April 16.

The Government of Bombay awarded three sets of prizes of Rs. 2500, Rs. 1000 and Rs. 500—one set for each of the three regional languages, Marathi, Gujarati and Kannada—for the following best dramas written by persons resident in Bombay State and published during the period April 1, 1954 to March 31, 1955:—

Marathi Dramas: "Honaji Bala" by Mr. C. Y. Marathe (first prize); second prize not awarded; "Ashich Eka Ratra Yete" by Mr. Prabhakar Tamhane (third prize).

Gujarati Dramas: "Hari Rath Chale" by Mr. Haridas B. Shukla (first prize); "Visha Vimochan" by Mr. Chunilal Madia (second prize); "Kariyavar" by Mr. Anant Acharya (third prize).

Kannada Dramas: first prize not awarded; "Bidugude" by Mr. V. M. Inamdar and "Pattanade Hudugi" by Mr. Basavraj Kattimani (second prize); third prize not awarded.

Four sets of prizes of the value of Rs. 1000, Rs. 500 and Rs. 250 had been earmarked for the best dramas suitable for children, one set for each of the three regional languages and one for Hindi. The prizes were not given as there were not suitable entries.

It looks as if our dramatists are not interested in child dramas. Or do they lack imagination?

FIRED

London, April 14.

Pretty cabaret dancer, Helene Morris, was dismissed from her job in London because some British newspapers published stories about her alleged romance with the 20-year-old King Hussein of Jordan.

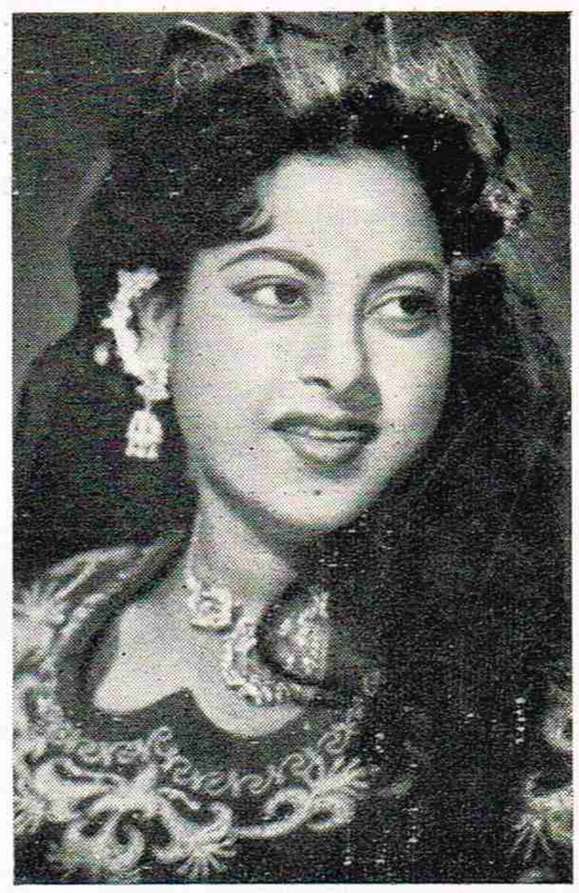
At a press conference, Mr. Yusef Aikkal, Jordan's Ambassador in London, said that the "love story" was a figment of imagination aimed against the young King. He added that the Jordan papers respected the private life of Britain's royal families and they did not publish "unpleasant details" in the love affair between Princess Margaret and Group Captain Peter Townsend last year. The Jordan Government, however, would not take legal action on this incident.

Well, there is nothing wrong in King Hussein being infatuated with a cabaret dancer. He is only following the pastime of the idle rich.

DIED IN "DEBTS"

London, April 17.

Peter Korda, the only son of the late Sir Alexander Korda by his first wife Maria Farkas, made a public protest over what he calls "the fantastic position" of his father's estate, as he was told by the solicitors that he will not receive a penny.



Those eyes have turned nights into days and in doing so missed the sunshine of the day. Meet Anita Guha in "Yahudi-ki-Beti".

In a will dated November 1955, the late Sir Alexander Korda directed that his son should receive £10,000 "immediately on my death". Of the residual estate, Peter Korda was to receive half, with the remainder divided between Lady Korda and the children of Sir Alexander's brothers, Vincent and Zoltan Korda. The executors and trustees of the estate are Vincent and Zoltan Korda and the two joint managing directors of London Films.

The gross estate, it is now said, will not exceed a quarter of a million sterling and after

paying high death duties, practically nothing will be left. Said Peter: "They tell me there is a deficit on the estate of over £4000 before death duties are paid. In a word, my father died in debt..... It is fantastic. I have questioned the executors but their replies were unsatisfactory. My father meant to treat me generously."

Let us see if Peter Korda's protests are heard, otherwise Peter should apply for state aid. The British have thus taken back what they had given to the Hungarian refugee who toiled for years to earn a fortune and become a British Knight.

COCKNEY WISDOM

London, April 22.

Well-known Cockney comedian Norman Wisdom recently signed a lucrative contract with Warwick Film Productions, a British company whose pictures are distributed by Columbia Pictures Corporation of America.

Wisdom gets £35,000 a picture, plus a percentage of profits, at the rate of one film a year for five years. His first film is "An Englishman In Las Vegas" with Anita Ekberg, the popular Swedish star as his leading lady.

Wisdom, who is 41 now, is very much inspired by the Charlie Chaplin type of acting that blends pathos with humour. A former army band boy, Norman Wisdom got his first chance with ENSA during World War II. Today his total earnings, including gramophone record royalties, stage and television shows, easily add up to £200,000.

Wisdom is not only wise but very talented.

HER FIRST PUP

Hollywood, April 30.

Petite British actress Jean Simmons will soon become a mother. But Hubby-actor Stewart Granger may not be by her side as he has flown to London for the shooting of his new picture.

Jean Simmons moved into their new Bel-Air residence all by herself. Said Jean, "Even an earthquake couldn't spoil my happiness." It is Jean's first baby and so we can understand her excitement.

WHO'S TALKING ?

Bombay, April 28.

Mr. M. B. Bilimoria was re-elected president of the Indian Motion Picture Distributors' Association at its annual general meeting held in Bombay. Mr. Sadashiv J. Row Kavi was elected vice-president while Jivraj K. Sheth was made the honorary treasurer. Executive committee members for the current year are, Babubhai A. Mehta, V. L. Vasa, V. R. Divekar, P. K. Bhandarkar, Dhirubhai M. Desai, Pranlal K. Doshi, Madanlal T. Shah and Mr. P. S. Parikh.

In his presidential address, Bilimoria grumbled loudly about the artificial extension of the run of some films in Bombay which held up the release of quite a few films. At least 50 play weeks were thus lost to distributors argued Bilimoria and added, "If the daily food could be rationed in the larger interests of the country why not ration the screening time amongst distributors in the interests of the industry?"

That is not difficult. But then

Men always brag a lot when they get a woman. Meet them a little later and you wonder why they carry around a mourning face. Love often ends with the silent funeral of the hero. Mahipal and Shakila begin a new love tale in "Rupkumari", a thrilling romance.

self-regulation, the usual baby-soother of the film industry, never works out straight because of the crookedness of human nature.

IT WILL COME

Hollywood, April 30.

Red-haired, excitable actress Susan Hayward has begun dating Hal Hayes.

Hal is reported to have given a newer and brighter personality to Susan. The question of marriage, however, has not yet projected itself.

SINGING "ANGEL"

Hollywood, May 2.

Italian actress Pier Angeli had an accident recently in which she broke a bone in her ankle. But that didn't worry her much because she was busy rehearsing her songs for "Port Afrique".

The songs were originally meant for Kathryn Grayson but subsequently transferred to Pier who decided to sing them herself. Hubby Vic Damone who heard her recordings is just raving about Pier's lovely voice.

Let us hope her fans also think the same for this is the first time that Pier's singing voice will be heard on the screen.

FEELING HER PULSE

Hollywood, April 22.

Hollywood actor George Nader, who goes about with Dani Crayne these days, gave her a pleasant surprise one evening when they dined at a Chinese resturant.

While eating dessert, Dani opened her fortune cookie which had a slip of paper. It read: "Lucky girl. You're sitting opposite the most exciting actor in Hollywood."

This seems to be Nader's way of obvious salesmanship. Wonder if Dani Crayne was impressed!

LAST GOOD YEAR

New Delhi, May 1.

According to the Annual Report of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting 1955-1956, the Films Division produced 55 documentaries (125 reels) through its own units during the year and bought 14 documentaries (20 reels) from outside producers. The total number of documentaries produced by the Division was 67 (142 reels), including record and presentation films and full length documentaries, as against 39 films (42 reels) produced in 1954-55.

One notable feature of the current year was the production of two full-length documentaries, "Mitrata ki Yatra" and "Bharat Darshan". Two more under production are a documentary based on the life of Buddha and folk dances of India in colour.

The newsreel production of one reel each week in five languages has continued. To expand the news coverage in the country, additional cameramen have been posted at Srinagar, Jammu, Nagpur, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Madras. Ajmer will soon have its own cameraman. There are two in Delhi, two in Bombay and one in Calcutta. One more will be posted in Calcutta.

The Ministry earned a revenue of Rs. 31,78,800 by way of rentals till February 29 and the estimated revenue for the whole year is Rs. 34,72,800.

The quality of documentaries, however, is fast going down. It is high time the Films Division pulled itself up and did some intelligent work for the lakhs spent. Bhownagary, the new chap in charge, doesn't seem to be much good.

PRICE OF GLORY

Melbourne, May 2.

The Australian Government admitted a loss of £28,800 on an official film recording the Queen's visit to Australia in 1954. The film cost the Department of Interior £58,400 while revenues earned from the distribution of the film amounted to £29,600.

The loss in revenue was attributed to lack of 35 mm colour film processing facilities in Australia and a series of accidents, one of which was the crash of an aircraft at Singapore in March 1954, when 800 feet of exposed unprocessed film were lost.

The film was not made as a commercial venture but primarily as a "historic record of the first visit to Australia by a reigning Monarch and as a means of presenting Australia in a favourable light to overseas audiences".

Under these circumstances, loss seems to be inevitable.

KIM VS KRIM

Hollywood, April 30.

Kim Novak, the pretty heroine of "Picnic", may soon marry Mac Krim, a wealthy cinema owner. The couple denied an engagement though friends seem to be in the know of things.

Kim's entry into films was accidental. She had gone to Hollywood from her Chicago home to demonstrate refrigerators. A talent scout spotted her cycling in Beverly Hills wearing shorts and a T-shirt. She landed a contract with Columbia Films.

Her next one is "The Eddy Duchin Story" opposite Tyrone Power.

RUSHING THE EVENT

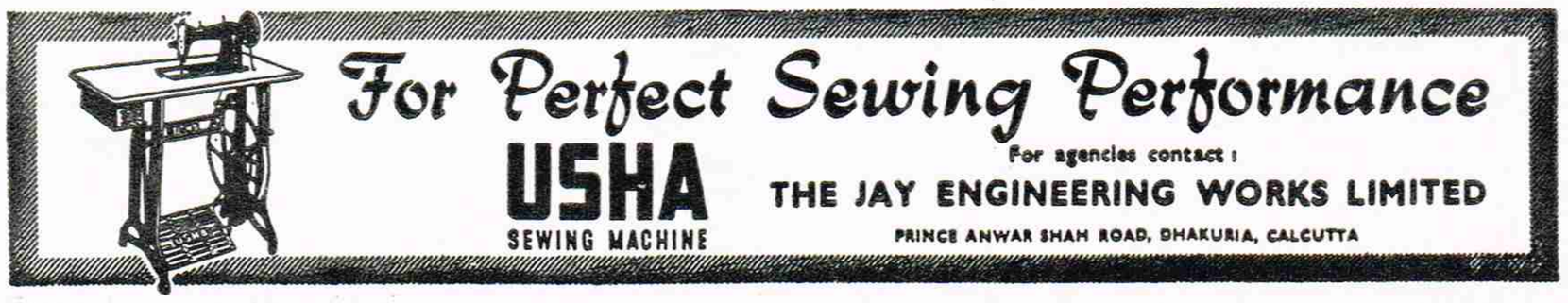
Madrid, May 1.

Ava Gardner, Hollywood actress, has taken to Madrid as a duck takes to water. Someone is reported to have told her that she would die soon and she has come to believe it. The result is that she goes out every night and tries to take the maximum out of life in Madrid. Her most recent chaperon is Milo Parado, a jet pilot.

SOWING SEEDS

New York, May 2.

British actress Claire Bloom who has pleased the critics with her performance in "Richard III" produced by Sir Laurence Olivier, is in New York these days. She went there for the premiere of "Alexander The Great".



Agents : M/s. Bombay Premier Trading Co., Bombay.

In New York, Claire Bloom has been particularly fascinated by actor Christopher Plummer who works in "The Lark". The two have dated each other several times already.

REJECTED QUEEN

Hollywood, April 22.

Producer Sol Siegel of Twentieth Century Fox gave an out-of-the-way present to film star Grace Kelly when she married Prince Rainier III of Monaco. It was a can of film containing the screen test made by Grace Kelly six years ago for the heroine's role in "Taxi". She was considered unsuitable and the role went to Constance Moore.

As usual the producer was completely wrong in his judgement for Grace Kelly is no ordinary actress. She turned out to be one of the most outstanding ones in Hollywood with her unusual talent. Grace Kelly was recently seen in "Swan" but her last picture—at least for the time being—is "High Society" which was shown to the couple when they were in Hollywood.

THIEVES SHOUTING

New Delhi, April 22.

The Film Federation of India has been worried for some time now by the wholesale plagiarism of Indian pictures by Pakistani film producers. One such picture was "Vachan" which became "Aulad" in Pakistan.

Then the Federation sent a letter to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Ministry advised Indian film producers to take legal steps if they found that their films were copied by film producers in other countries.

This is a case of a pot calling the kettle black. What about the heartless plagiarism followed by Indian producers? To quote only one instance in recent memory, "The Fabulous Senorita", a Hollywood picture, had at least half-a-dozen Indian versions under different titles, one of them being "Albeli". Such people have no reason to complain.

FACE PROFITS

Hollywood, April 27.

Mary Pickford, who recently sold her shares in United Artists at a profit, has re-invested them in buying the old Mayflower Hotel in Los Angeles in association with Buddy Rogers and a syndicate. The deal was concluded at two million dollars with Joseph Greenbach.

The Mayflower is a popular hotel in the heart of the city and will be renovated. Mary Pickford, known as the world's sweetheart, was a rage in her days and a much sought-after star. She is a clever businesswoman now.

TARZAN'S MATE

Hollywood, May 3.

Gordon Scott, the present "Tarzan" has proposed to film actress Vera Miles. But the marriage has to wait because Alfred Hitchcock holds Vera's contract and cannot release her yet.

Alfred Hitchcock has high hopes that Vera Miles may become another Grace Kelly on the screen. So Gordon 'Tarzan' has to wait patiently for some more time to give the jungle call. Let us hope Vera answers to it then.

LONG-LEGGED ANN

Hollywood, May 2.

There is a belief that Leap Year is a lucky one for marriages and that is why everyone in Hollywood thinks that pretty, long-legged Ann Miller is suspiciously dancing around this theme these days.

There are three of them in the run—a local socialite, a New York tycoon and wealthy Texan Bill Moss. Moss is the ex-husband of Jane Withers—one-time child star—and has three children.

Let us see who bags the prize.

HIS COMMAND PERFORMANCE

Hollywood, April 28.

Veteran character actor, Edward Arnold, died of a cerebral haemorrhage on April 26, at the age of 66 in Los Angeles.

Born in New York city on February 18, 1890, Edward Arnold made his stage debut in 1907 in "Midsummer Night's Dream". Later he took to the screen where he became an immediate success. The pictures he worked in are too numerous to mention as Edward Arnold dominated the screen for many years but some of the important ones are "Annie Get Your Gun", "Command Decision", "Belles On Their Toes", etc.

Spring is over. It is summer now and thoughts come like swallows bringing memories of honeymoon to a bed that is not exactly an oven of love now. Shakila is ruminating upon something—or is it someone?—in "Begunah", a social theme.

REVIEWED IN HOLLYWOOD

by

Our Special Correspondent

"This is not a malicious tirade against all pictures coming from Hollywood. This is a deliberate campaign only against bad and dangerous pictures—pictures which contain lust, crime, violence and other anti-social elements. Good pictures from Hollywood or from any other country are always welcome. Like all good things they sell themselves. But bad and dangerous pictures have to be pointed out to save our people from becoming degenerate and demoralised members of society. Hollywood producers have turned America into a big colony of violent and sadistic criminals. This section is therefore intended to prevent that tragedy in our peace-loving, non-violent country". Baburao Patel.

"By and large the pervasive influence of films is very great. It is not only pervasive but also widespread. Its influence may not be as deep as those of books, yet it is a strong influence in moulding the lives of people.....I am clear in my mind that crime and horror stories should be suppressed ruthlessly. Such stories were a hundred percent bad, causing sadistic crimes. Such films encouraged children to murder for the sake of pleasure. No government or society should allow such things to flourish. Government ought to take ruthless action to prevent something turning into an instrument of evil". Prime Minister Nehru at the Film Seminar on February 27, 1955.

HIDDEN GUNS (Republic)

CAST: Richard Arlen, Faron Young, Bruce Bennett

Here is another piddling wild Western paying tributes to violence and dishing out gunplay and fisticuffs. It contains the usual villainous gambler who rules the town and cheats and browbeats the townfolk. It contains the villain's willing henchmen, hired gunmen and politicians, and his unwilling victims. It also contains the inevitable sheriff, as usual chasing the elusive peace for the town and finding it hard. It must always take an hour and some odd minutes of gunning, riding and killing before the average American sheriff can bring crooks to book and peace to the town. "Hidden Guns" therefore provides an hour of fights, murders and snipings before allowing law to overcome lawlessness. In this picture, in any case, the poor sheriff is unable to restore law and order in his lifetime. That chore is accomplished by his son after the usual violent showdown with the crooks. Let Americans keep this picture in their own country. They deserve it. India should be a happier place without having on its screens such dangerous vehicles of violence.

Bruce Bennett is a big crook and a cardsharp who has gunmen and politicians in his pay and who is quite a terror to the townspeople so that nobody has the courage to stand up to him. Once during a crooked session of gambling Bennett kills a young rancher and yet no witness is willing to take risk in testifying against him. That results in a break between the only two spirited men in town, Richard Arlen, the sheriff, and his son Faron Young, the deputy sheriff, who throws away his badge and his job because he doesn't like his father's ridiculous helplessness. After this when Arlen does manage to get a witness, Bennett assigns his hired gunman John Carradine to wipe out the witness. Finding that too much to swallow Arlen decides to arrest Bennett and sets out for the local saloon. Expecting him and ready to give him a suitable welcome, Bennett draws Arlen into an apparently square gun duel and the people soon see Bennett out-drawing Arlen and killing him. Actually, however, Arlen is killed by Carradine who had taken a snipe with a rifle from a hiding place. When the rifle bullet is taken out of the sheriff's corpse, Young realizes his father was killed treacherously. Vowing to finish his father's unfinished work and to bring the guilty to book, Young picks up the badge again and managing to collect some supporters heads for a showdown with Bennett. Bennett tries to repeat the old treacherous trick but Young keeps himself protected from the hidden Carradine and wounds Bennett making him drop the gun. And when Carradine reveals his hiding spot by firing subsequent shots, Young puts enough bullets into him. In the end Bennett's bid to escape is foiled by the rejuvenated townspeople and he is put behind bars by Young to await his due punishment.

Final Verdict: This package of violence with its murders and shootings must be kept away from India.

STAR IN THE DUST (Universal-International)

CAST: John Agar, Mamie Van Doren, Richard Boone

Here is more gunplay and violence from Hollywood. Like other Westerns this one is also filled with violent ranchers and violent farmers, professional gunmen and crooked bankers, and other shady and unpleasant characters. A tale of violence and crookedness and merely a flimsy excuse for showing some gunplay and fist-fights, this picture is unsuited for exhibition in India and we hope the Censors will ban it in the interests of our people.

The story revolves round Richard Boone, a professional gunman, who had been hired by the ranchers of a small western town to prevent farmers from trespassing on their grazing lands, but who now awaits hanging as a convicted killer. With the sunset still away at which time he is to be hanged, Boone feels confident of escaping the noose with the help of the ranchers. But the farmers who too expect the ranchers to come to Boone's rescue are, in turn, determined to see Boone hang

Parrots have always been privileged folks. They can perch anywhere without being accused of outraging a woman's modesty. And they can also share the secrets. How many film fans would want to be parrots to be where this one is! Meet Shakila in "Rupkumari", a thrilling entertainer.

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and are therefore ready for a showdown with the ranchers. In their anxiety the farmers even threaten to lynch Boone but John Agar, the sheriff, makes it clear that he will not brook interference from any party and will hang Boone at the scheduled time. Boone now starts devising ways for his escape and remembers Lief Ericson, the local banker, who had made a secret deal with him to kill some ranchers. Handing over some incriminating letters mentioning the deal to Coleen Gray, his girl-friend, Boone asks her to go to Ericson with them and threaten him with exposure if he does not arrange his escape. While denying that the letters were written by him, Ericson agrees to set about arranging Boone's escape. Informing Randy Stuart that the letters were written by her husband Henry Morgan, Ericson gets her to agree to smuggle a gun to Boone, while he arranges with his sister Mamie Van Doren, Agar's sweetheart, that she will take Agar away from the jail to allow Randy to smuggle the gun to Boone. However Boone's bid to escape is thwarted and Agar gets wise to the association between Boone and Ericson. As the sun sets, Agar takes Boone to the gallows to hang him. The farmers and ranchers gather around but ranchers offer no interference when they learn from Agar about the deal between Boone and Ericson and that Boone was only working for Ericson's benefit. Ericson, who had hidden himself on a roof now tries to shoot Agar. He misses his mark, however, when Mamie interferes. In the struggle that follows Ericson topples down from the roof and dies. The town now proceeds to watch Boone hang.

Final Verdict: This is merely a flimsy excuse for Hollywood to show some violence and gunplay. This kind of entertainment is at cross purposes with Indian culture, and must be stopped from poisoning our society.

TERROR AT MIDNIGHT (Republic)

CAST: Scott Brady, Joan Vohs

"Terror At Midnight" is a crime tale and an unpleasant picture. Among the crimes that occur are two murders, one hit-and-run car accident and blackmail. Among the characters are a police officer's fiancee responsible for the accident and innocently involved in the murders, a drink-addict jealous wife, a faithless, lusty husband, professional crooks and blackmailers. All these items combine to make a picture that is unpleasant and unpalatable enough to deserve a ban.

Joan Vohs, fiancee of Scott Brady, a police detective, goes in search of an apartment in Brady's car. On the way she is involved in an accident with a cyclist and on the prompting of a witness to the accident with blackmailing designs, she flees from the scene in the car. She goes to a garage to have repairs done on the car. But Frank Faylen, the garage-owner and a lusty character, senses that she was in trouble. He deliberately delays doing the repairs and the following night when Joan comes to take the car, the lusty man begins to close in upon her. The sudden arrival on the scene of Virginia Gregg, Faylen's alcoholic wife, however, saves Joan but Faylen ends up dead, killed by his jealous and furious wife. But evidence points to Joan as the murderer of Faylen and she now faces suspicion for both the murder and the accident. She gives all the facts to Brady who soon starts acting to get her out of trouble by establishing her innocence. Accompanied by Joan, he goes to question Virginia and has the woman so frightened that she decides to run away. In order to raise money for the escape, Virginia remembers two car thieves who had done business with her husband and decides to blackmail them. Her blackmailing attempt, however, brings her only death at the hands of the car thieves. Joan manages to get involved in this murder too by stumbling upon Virginia's body. This leads to the usual violent climax in which Brady manages to trap the murderous car thieves and to finally prove Joan innocent.

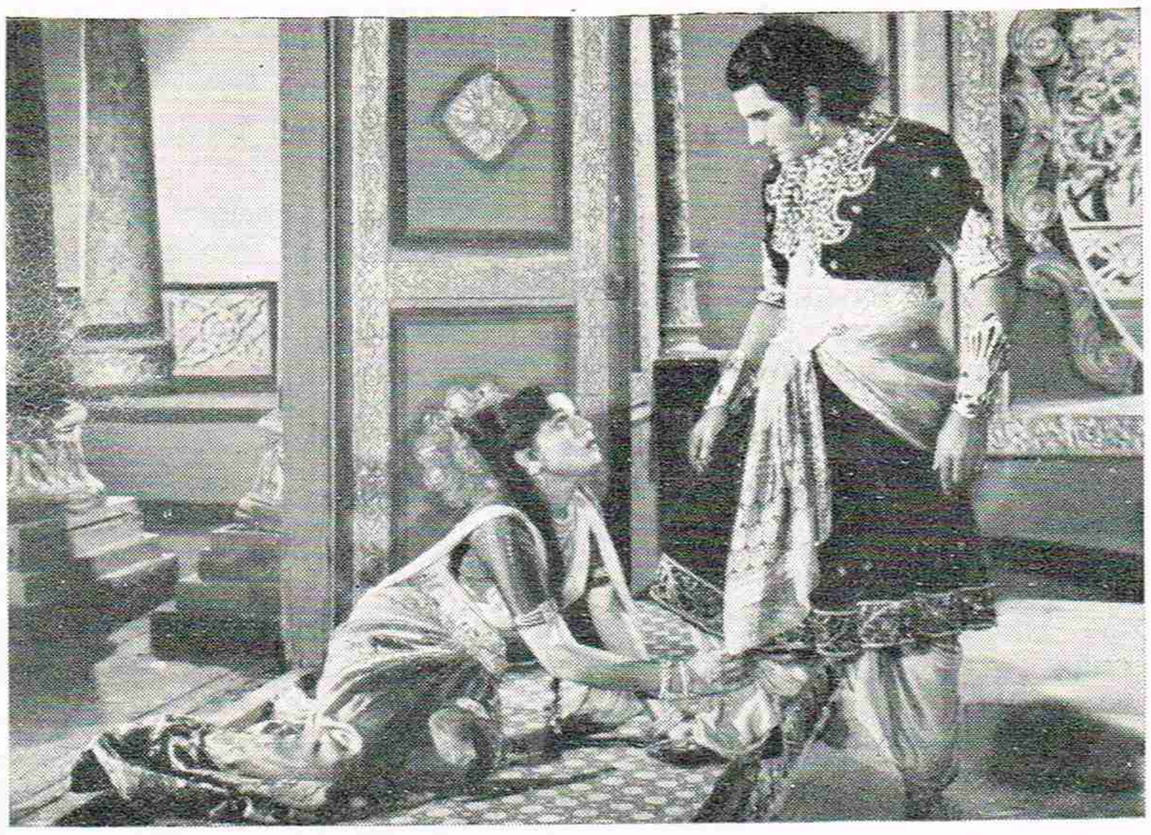
Final Verdict: This is an unpalatable crime tale dealing with murder and blackmail and deserves to be banned without a second thought.

A DAY OF FURY (Universal-International)

CAST: Dale Robertson, Mara Corday, Jock Mahoney

"A Day of Fury" is another outlaw tale and another Hollywood essay on violence. But while most Western tales begin with a wild, lawless town that needs peace and taming, this one begins with a reformed town that goes wild and lawless at least for a day with the arrival of an incorrigible gunman who insists on living by the gun. That man keeps causing trouble in the town and providing the picture with the usual brawls, killings and lynchings. The trouble ceases only with his death which of course, occurs at the very end of the picture. On the whole this picture is just a package of violence that deserves to be kept out of India.

Taking place during a period of twenty-four hours, the tale begins with Dale Robertson, a gunfighter, saving the life of Jock Mahoney, marshal of a frontier town, from an outlaw who sought to kill him in an ambush. Mahoney, who on that day was preparing to wed Mara Corday, a dance hall girl resolves to go straight and virtuous, feels indebted to Robertson though he doesn't feel happy about Robertson's conviction that Wild West will always remain Wild West and unimpressed by the authority of law. And soon after the gunslinger moves



That is how women tried to hold men in olden days. In modern times the position is exactly reverse. Though Nirupa Roy wouldn't risk that in her own life, she yet plays the part with Manhar Desai in "Sati Nagkanya", a mythological tale.

into town he begins to cause one trouble after another. He meets an attempt on his life by killing his attacker, gets into a brawl with the local judge and the preacher, uses the gun to forcibly open the closed saloon in the town and restores the reformed town's sinful ways by arranging the re-entry of the dance hall girls who had been driven away. He causes trouble even to Mara, who had been his girl-friend once, when she tries to talk him into leaving town and leads the disturbed townsfolk to suspect her of being his associate. Mahoney, of course, is already suspected by the people to be in league with Robertson because he lets the gunman go unchallenged so far and even tries to protect him from angry townspeople. Robertson then inspires a lynching and as the preacher tries to intervene he is killed by a young lad imitating Robertson's toughness. That brings things to a head and after arresting the juvenile murderer, Mahoney heads for Robertson only to find his life being threatened by Mara. Mahoney saves Robertson from being shot dead in the nick of time and feeling better now that he had also once saved Robertson's life, he orders the gunfighter to quit town. Robertson, of course, does not need the order and instead reaches for his gun. Mahoney, however, pulls out his gun faster and Robertson ends up as dead. Mahoney now proceeds to keep his date with Mara at the altar.

Final Verdict: This is another package of violence from Hollywood which deserves to be kept away from India.

THE SCARLET HOUR (Paramount)

CAST: Carol Omhart, Tom Tryon, Jody Lawrence

Crime, murder and infidelity—these are the chief ingredients of this anti-social concoction prepared by Hollywood along the usual disgusting lines. It tells about a woman who dislikes her husband, carries on a clandestine affair with her husband's employee, tries to elope with her paramour, plans and participates in a robbery, murders her husband, and then tries to implicate another in the murder. She is a completely abhorrent character from the beginning to the end. Other main characters are equally odious. Though the picture tries to give to the woman's paramour the hero's status towards the end he remains a hateful illicit lover and a criminal. The woman's husband evokes no sympathy, either. Besides these, there are thieves and gun duels and violence. On the whole, this is a picture which is highly unwholesome and anti-social in content and which would stink in all decent nostrils. Our Censors must ban this picture outright if they do not want to abet Hollywood in dumping dirty entertainment in India.

The story deals with James Gregory, a building contractor, Carol Omhart, his wife, and Tom Tryon, his sales manager. Carol, who is unhappy with Gregory, carries on an illicit affair with Tryon. Once, while keeping a romantic tryst, the two illicit lovers accidentally become aware of the scheme of a gang of crooks to stage a big jewel robbery in a Beverly Hills home in Hollywood. Carol gets a severe beating from her suspicious husband on returning home late in the night. The next day she shows her bruises to Tryon and decides to elope with him. And to get enough money to make their elopement successful, Carol remembers the jewel robbery plan they had overheard, and suggests that she and Tryon should rob the jewel thieves of their loot when they have carried off the robbery. Meanwhile, Gregory stumbles on the fact that Tryon is his wife's paramour and soon the three characters are on the scene of the robbery. And while the jewel thieves' bullets chase Tryon as he tries to escape after robbing their robbed jewels, Carol, engaged in a struggle with him, shoots Gregory dead. Carol and Tryon manage to escape, Tryon carrying away the impression that Gregory had been killed by the thieves' bullets. The illicit lovers, how-

A Message to Women

(Especially those who are married)

IT's natural enough to be prejudiced against entirely new ideas, until one gets used to them. But supposing a new idea meant *undreamed of* comfort and convenience, month after month, what sensible woman would ignore it?

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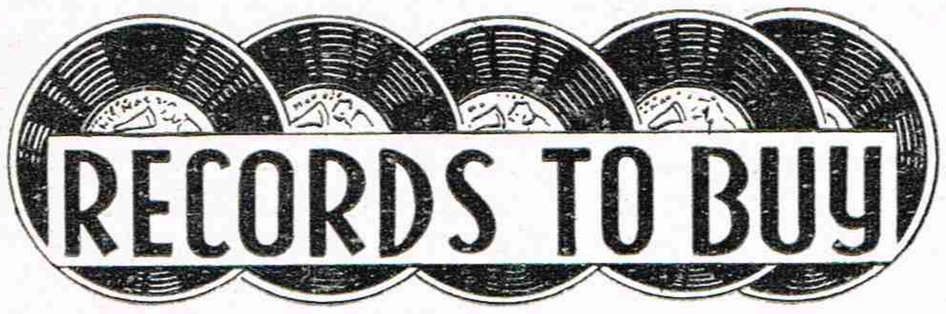


"BHAI BHAI"

(Music Director: Madan Mohan)

GE 27685 (Kishore and Lata)

"Mera naam Abdul Rehman"

Here is a bright dance number with popular words and lilting rhythm that makes you gay and excited. The secular sentiment is in addition well emphasized.

GE 27683 (Geeta Dutt)

"Ai dil mujhe bata de"

For those in love, this snappy tune is made quite tantalizing by Geeta's inimitable rendering. It has, besides, a slight touch of Yaman Kalyan. On the other side is "Sharabi ja ja" sung by Lata, a pleasing mixture of the classical and light notes.

"SHEIKH CHILLI"

(Music Director: Vinod)

No. 51859 (Mohd. Rafi)

"Gunana gunana guna tara"

Well sung by Rafi, this song has catchy words backed up by an equally catchy rhythm.

No. 51861 (Asha Bhosle)

"Le le mera akhri salaam"

If you are fond of some sad notes, you will like this one describing the sweetheart's blackmail of "akhri salaam". The song ends on a high note. On the other side is "Aayee jawani jayee jawani", a simple chorus sung by Mohd. Rafi and party on fleeting youth.

No. 51860 (Mohd. Rafi)

"Jhoothe ka monh kala"

Here is a familiar yet pleasing tune. Its fast rhythm makes your heart feel lighter in spite of a hundred worries. On the other side is "Koi kisi ka ho hi jata hai", a speedy duet sung by Geeta Dutt and G. M. Durrani.

"NAYA AADMI"

(Music Directors: Viswanathan & Ramamurthy)

No. 74544 (Lata Mangeshkar)

"Dil-e-betaab thahar"

An impatient heart in love moves fast and so does this tune. On the other side is "Jagat ka rakhwala Bhagwan" sung by Mohd. Rafi. It is a devotional song with steady rhythm containing touches of some ragas like Khamaj, Des, Tilang, Bihag, etc.

No. 74546 (Geeta Dutt)

"Sunoji sunoji ye zamana hai bura"

This is a frivolous tune to while away your lighter moments. On the other side is a Qawwali, "Dawlat agar ho pas to", sung by Mohd. Rafi and Bulbul with a variety of fast and slow-moving tempos.

"DEVDAS"

(Music Director: S. D. Burman)

No. 51716 (Mohd. Rafi and chorus)

"Manzil ki chaha men"

If you like a bit of wail, this is a good record to buy. On the other side is "O albele panchhi" sung by Asha and Usha Mangeshkar. It is sad melody for a broken heart.

"HEER"

(Music Director: Anil Biswas)

No. 51777 (Lata Mangeshkar)

"Kab tak rahega purda"

A melodious tune, it expresses the tumultous beatings of a heart in desperate love.

ever, give up the idea of elopement to avoid implication in the murder and Carol starts acting like a widow in grief. Tryon hides the stolen jewels and starts attending to business. But Carol, the faithless woman, wanted a life of love with Tryon and when she cannot get Tryon's love she becomes unhappy. And now she starts suspecting that Tryon is entangled with Jody Lawrence, his secretary, and becomes filled with jealousy. When the jewel thieves manage to discover that Carol was behind snatching the jewels from them, she feels desperate and tries to involve the innocent Jody in the murder. She, however, doesn't succeed and is ultimately arrested, while Tryon meets his due punishment too but with the consoling thought that Jody, who loves him, will welcome him after he has undergone the punishment.

Final Verdict: This tale of murder, illicit love and robbery constitutes a stinkingly anti-social entertainment and must be banned.

JUBAL (Columbia)

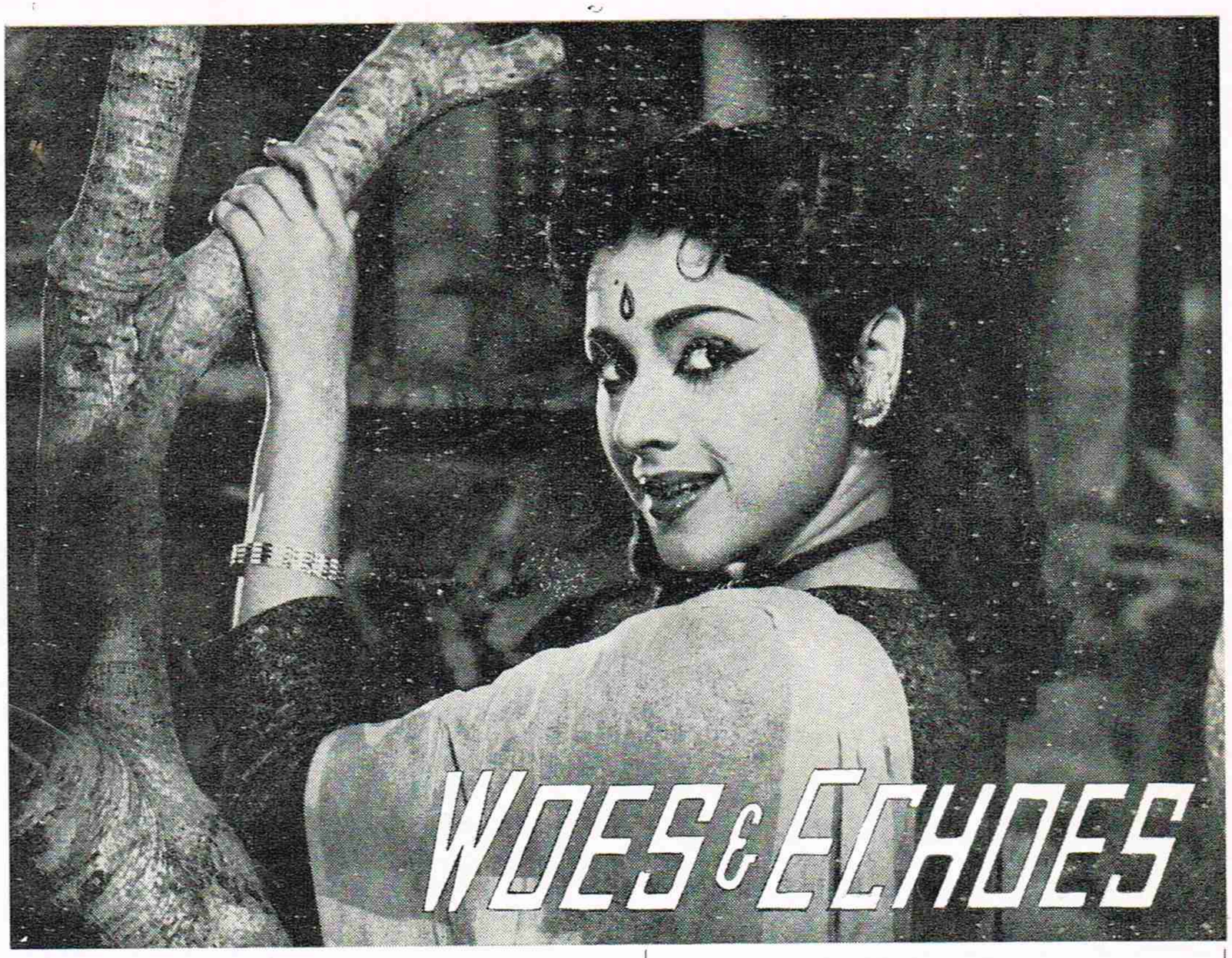
CAST: Glenn Ford, Ernest Borgnine, Rod Steiger, Valerie French

"Jubal" is no decent or pleasant entertainment. It is a revoltingly sordid tale of lust, passion, jealousy and treachery. Sex is the main theme of the picture and it shows a married but immoral woman hungering for another man who does not respond to her desperately lascivious gestures, a ranch-hand coveting his employer's sexy wife, in frustration poisoning the employer's mind against a rival employee, ultimately even resorting to an assault on the woman, and then inciting a lynching. The sordid sexual intrigues of course result in violence and killing and death, and the picture ends by leaving the spectator completely disgusted. This sordid, over-charged sex drama constitutes an utterly putrid, stinking piece of entertainment which richly deserves to be banned, and banned at once and without the slightest shilly-shally.

The story has Ernest Borgnine, a gentle cattle baron, picking up Glenn Ford lying in exhausted condition, taking him to his ranch and giving him a job. Ford's arrival is not welcomed by Rod Steiger, another hand on Borgnine's ranch, who covets Borgnine's sexy and immoral wife, Valerie French, and who has designs even on Borgnine's ranch. When Ford is promoted to be the foreman, Steiger becomes a more bitter enemy of Ford. Valerie, who in spite of being loved greatly by her simple husband thirsts for strange beds, starts making persistent advances to Ford. But Ford does not encourage her and instead becomes attracted to Felicia Farr, the daughter of the leader of a wandering religious sect that comes down to camp on the ranch. Ford's preference for Felicia makes Valerie furious and she becomes lewdly eager in her frantic efforts to make him accept her. Ford, however, feels only more repulsed. With his cup of enmity for Ford overflowing, Steiger now decides to incite Borgnine against Ford, and carefully plants the suspicion in Borgnine that Ford was coveting his wife Valerie. Borgnine, roused in fury, confronts Ford in a saloon and starts shooting at him without giving him a chance to clear himself. Forced to defend himself Ford kills Borgnine. In the meantime the savage, licentious Steiger assaults Valerie at the ranch after she repulses his advances. From one savage act Steiger quickly turns to another and starts inciting townspeople to lynch Ford as the murderer of Borgnine. Refusing to hide himself and disregarding Felicia's plea to run away, Ford decides to go to the ranch to see Valerie who, he felt sure, will testify to his innocence. Valerie, in the throes of death, does just that apart from pointing the accusing finger at Steiger and it all ends with Steiger awaiting the worst from a posse of the townspeople and Ford going away with Felicia and her people.

Final Verdict: This is a sordid, stinking sex drama that must be banned by the Censors as a typical example of lewd entertainment from Hollywood.

Letters submitted for this section should not have more than 25 lines. Rs.5/- will be paid for every letter published in this section.



MARIE'S REVENGE

"With reference to your story concerning the Ministry of Education's handling of my tour, which appeared in the May 1956 issue of your magazine, I feel obliged to point out the following:

"Firstly, I cannot agree with your personal remarks about Mr. Bhownagary. As to the facts, he probably knew about my coming to India earlier than anyone else in India. He was told of my plans by the President of the International Federation of Cine Clubs in Paris. Since Mr. Bhownagary was not officially concerned with my visit he was not informed of the exact date of my arrival until after I landed in Bombay. Immediately, on his own initiative, he undertook to make my visit to Bombay useful and a success. He arranged two Press conferences and twelve lectures. It was due to him and to his Ministry that my film extracts, sent air freight from India House, London, were passed through customs and permitted to be shown without delay. (Apparently the Ministry of Education had made no arrangements for the handling of this matter.)

"Secondly, while adequate information and instructions were not circulated sufficiently ahead of my arrival in various places, the people on the spot who had charge of my lectures managed in every case to meet me. Moreover, they worked very hard so that even where lectures had to be arranged at as little as a day or two's notice, fairly good audiences were secured at almost all places, the audience of 4000 at Gaya being the largest.

"Thirdly, while it is true I was stranded in Calcutta, it was not without friends as you state. Throughout my stay in Calcutta the Bengal Motion Picture Association, and others, did their utmost to assist me in every way. In fact the B.M.P.A. went so far as to buy me an air ticket to Madras in order to help me out and insure that I fulfilled my schedule. The Ministry of Education has since re-paid part of this money.

"What I cannot understand is why the ministries were designated "Hindu" and "Muslim", and Mr. Bhownagary as "Parsi" in any matter connected with me. The use of these words appears regrettably factious even if there was no such intention. As a visiting and friendly foreigner, with friends of all religions and of all groups within your country, I wish to make it clear I take no side in what appears as a domestic quarrel. I have no bias for or against any individual on the grounds of what religion or community he or she may belong to. So far as I know no communal interest has ever had any bearing upon any of my experience in India.

"Will you be so kind as to publish this letter in your next issue as I would like people in this country, who made efforts on my behalf, to know that I am most grateful to them?"

BOMBAY. **Marie Seton.**

THE GANDHIAN VACCINE

"For the unpardonable sin of disguising yourself as a priest and extracting from Shreemati Freedombehn a confession of her husband's follies and foibles only to expose them mercilessly, our white-capped highpriests are sure to excommunicate and anathematize you. You would be lucky if you escape an inquisition. You may then require some proof. And here it is, supplied by the bridegroom himself:

"In his convocation address at the University of Ceylon, Colombo, in January 1950 this brave lion of Bharat roared:

"'We live surrounded by all kinds of dark fears. Probably, the prevailing feeling in the world of today is fear. Almost everybody is afraid of something; every country is afraid of some other country and, of course, fear is a thing which leads to all kinds of undesirable consequences. Fear is probably the most evil of sensations and we are living under the dominance of fear. If we could get rid of this fear to some extent, perhaps, it would be far easier for us to solve our problems.'

"When Nehru says 'we' he only means himself. The trouble with this lion is that Gandhiji, the father of the nation, made him sterile by constantly injecting peace and non-violence into him. And we are proud of this 'lion'."

KARKALA. **Mrs. Jani Bai.**

When they turn round and look, they ask you to turn round and come near. Only the blind will miss the invitation in those dark eyes. Meet Padmini in a new tantalizing role in "Payal", a romantic tale released by AVM.

PENDULOUS PANDIT

"In your "Confessions Of A Bride" in the April issue, you have shown how the bridegroom Nehru has failed to deliver the goods in the marriage of our independence, thanks to his scares and vacillations. It is well known that a man with deep-seated fears and conflicts, whether in the marital bed or on a king's throne, can never function properly. Doctors, fathers and heads of states must be firm and imperious as otherwise they themselves as well as the patients, children and citizens suffer in the long run.

"Possessing a powerful intellect coupled with an ever changing liberal mind, sparkling as quicksilver and as unreliable, Nehru's bent is more of the idealistic thinker than of the practical politician. That is why in spite of his sound and well-meaning ideas, Nehru is no good at actions and decisions. In this respect he is the exact antithesis of his former friend and colleague, the late Vallabhbhai Patel. If the latter had been there today, the two would have been able to run the business of our State better by acting as a counter-check on each other.

Puberty needs solitude to ponder over the various physical phenomena which youth brings into view. Nutan is going through a thrilling experience in "Baarish", a romantic tale.

"In trying to improve and reform the world and get a name for ourselves in the process, Nehru has only succeeded in landing us in unheard of complications. His mishandling of the Goa and Kashmir issues, which have been magnified beyond all proportion, his flirting with the Communist marauders, his drifting away from the comparatively freer Western camp with which we have had closer historical and cultural ties—are all instances in point.

"Sometimes I think, with all my love and admiration for Nehru, that we would have been better off with a narrow but firm-minded political leader like the late Sardar Patel than with our national and international hero who, due to his doubts and dilettantism, has failed to bring about the consummation of our dreams."

BOMBAY. **S. R. Badanidiyoor.**

CHILD OF NECESSITY

"I am lost in admiration of your feature article "Confessions Of A Bride" written in an ironical and sarcastic manner. It seems as if nothing is too difficult for "filmindia" to accomplish. It would be difficult to exaggerate the service you have rendered the people of this country by publication of this glorious article. You have set an example of leadership and service that cannot pass unmentioned. I am of the stern view that you not only dazzle by your lion-hearted brilliance, but also exemplify a principle, an imperative leadership in mature democracy."

MANNARGUDI. **D. William Moses.**

BLIND HERO

"Your leader in the April issue is above all a manifestation of a creative mind. Couching the basic facts of Nehru's policy in an artistic language, you have taken pains to show via those 'confessions' what enervating fear has made of our great Prime Minister.

"Let us take up one solitary instance. That the Congress organization lacks pitiably in an enlightened cadres policy is evident from the nature of men it has been throwing up at different levels since independence. You are very much nearer to the heart of this problem of leadership when you put it succinctly, "What our Jawaharlal lacks is the courage to create new leaders. He is afraid of rivals because he lives all the time in his mirror. That is where he differs from Gandhiji who made men out of dust. Nehru turns men into mice."

"A host of spirited leaders ready to put service above self is what the country needs today most. The Congress has to thank itself for the corrupt body politic that obtains at the moment. Has Nehru shown an acute awareness of the fact that his party abounds in such petty people as can have no qualms in selling their souls for a mess of pottage? Does his sense of history tell him what KMT of Chiang-Kai-Shek was like before the revolutionary upsurge of the Communists?"

ARRAH. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

NOVELTY PAYS

"In the field of entertainment we have recent innovations such as 3-D and Vista-Vision. A parallel to this in journalism we can find only in "filmindia".

"In your April editorial "Confessions Of A Bride" you have digressed from the orthodox mode of writing leaders and provided your readers with astounding facts and figures coupled with a large dose of humour and psychology.

"You feel the pulse of your readers as ably as an expert physician. When we are sick of reading sermons in the dailies that are very often "caviare to the general", it is with great relish that we turn to the editorial of "filmindia" at the beginning of every month.

"As you have said elsewhere in the same issue you never borrow thought but continue to regale your readers, with thoughts fresh as dew."

COLOMBO. **Mrs. T. S. Sameer.**

SALUTE WON'T HELP

" 'Confessions Of A Bride' in the anniversary number of "filmindia" is really a gem of journalism. The facility with which you have used the symbolic expressions has made this editorial of yours a masterpiece that provides intellectual pleasure to the reader. The inimitably original way in which you have presented facts about the conditions in India and the frailties of Nehru, frailties that cost the nation a great deal, puts your writing in a class by itself. Above all, this goes on to prove that, in the interest of the nation and the people, you have been consistently trying in every way to bring practical sense into those whom fate has given charge of India's destiny. And that makes us salute you, Mr. Patel."

AJMER. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

HULLO, NEHRUJI

"Your fine, beautiful and hypnotizing editorial "Confessions Of A Bride" in the April issue of "filmindia" is very pleasing, invigorating and fascinating to read. In this beautiful, novel and charming editorial you have picturesquely and puissantly summed up the state of the nation under the leadership of our beloved Prime Minister Nehru with all his fear and Hamletian complexes. I hope this cogent and convincing article would make Mr. Nehru think and do something about **his** fear complex in the larger interests of the nation."

HANAMKONDA. **Kumari Vijaya.**

PRAY FERVENTLY

"I entirely agree with your excellent editorial in the April issue of "filmindia"

which reveals Pandit Nehru's weakness in his national and international policies.

"It is true that his whole policy is being based on the foundation of fear. He could not solve even a simple question like Goa. You rightly state that he turns a simple question into a problem and then starts getting afraid of it. We pray God to give Nehru some courage, even so late in the day—now that Pakistan is showing us its new set of American teeth."

NAVSARI. **Venilal M. Khatri.**

KESKAR'S TRAP

"In the light of actual experience, I fear the ideals of a Welfare State, which look so attractive and ennobling on the surface, contain within them the dangerous seeds of regimentation and totalitarianism. When a Government begins to interfere too much in the private and professional activities of the citizens, one cannot help feeling that a "Laissez Faire State" has its own advantages while a "Welfare State", run according to the fads and fancies of a few, can do more harm than good.

"We may talk a lot of rot about Indian benevolence, tolerance, peace and Panchashila, but the fact remains that those who administer us are as power-mad a set of rulers as can be found anywhere on earth. Only this mask is often hidden under the sacred garb of morality, culture and other pious frauds. Judas has not misjudged the motive behind Dr. Keskar's move to license the film producers which can easily be seen to be born out of a desire to control and rule the film industry and to be hailed as its "Saviour" by his favourite friends and followers.

"The shameful and surprising thing is that the Film Producers' Guild, in its short-sighted conspiracy with the Government against the independent producers whom it wants to oust, should have acted with what it must have thought as subtle cleverness but which is actually criminal folly in playing into the hands of power-loving bosses, without realizing the harm it would be doing to the entire industry in the long run.

"This is the time, as Judas has urged, for all film producers to rise and act as one man, the necessity being all the more imperative as this is an issue which affects not only their own long-range interest, but involves our fundamental rights of freedom of speech and expression guaranteed by our Constitution of which we are so proud and which we must try to preserve at all costs."

BOMBAY. **B. Subba Rao.**

KESKAR'S DIRTY DESIGN

"In sounding a timely note of warning against the proposal for licensing film producers, you have rendered one more unique service to the film industry. The proposed licensing might become a forerunner to the nationalisation of the film industry, and consequently, the question becomes one of life and death for the producers.

"Film production is a highly individualistic business, and any control over it by the State, howsoever well-intentioned, will adversely affect it. A licensing system was introduced during the last war, and with what results, is too recent history to need re-capitulation. As you have very rightly pointed out, the professed object, viz. exercising effective control over foreign producers, could be more properly achieved by several other means at the disposal of government.

"The Congress Working Committee has called for censorship at the script-stage. This is a wise course. But the fact that film is one of the most important media of expression, and as such is entitled to full liberty, must not be overlooked in initiating any policy towards the industry."

BOMBAY. **M. S. Lulla.**

Two smiling women make a spring in a country where one is hardly to be found. Helen and Minoo Mumtaz bring new life to the screen in "Halaku", a tale of exciting adventure.

HISTORY OF ANGELS

"The way the Board of Editors of the history of our freedom movement was done away with confirms our worst fears that this 'history' may not be little more than Congress story. It is understood that Maulana Azad—no historian himself, even by pretence—wanted the history to be written in a particular (secular?) way. This 'direction' was resented by the Board of historians led by Shri R. C. Mazumdar, who, therefore, resigned. And now the Government has appointed a one-man Board, in the hope, it seems, that one man would be easier to manage.

"One would beseech the Government not to attempt any history-writing for some time yet. Many of the characters in the 1919-1947 period, the most active and controversial period in our recent history, are still with us. It would be absurd to expect any historian in the way of the Government to give us an objective account of our leaders not all of whom can be painted in the rosiest of hues. Which historian today will depict the tragedy of Khilafat or the betrayal of the people by Partition in its true light? Which historian will dare find the least fault with Gandhian politics and keep his job? Under these circumstances one cannot expect anything better than a Stalin-style history in which the hero of the day will be the centre of all things, a history which posterity will feel justified in burning to vindicate truth."

BOMBAY. **S. P. Mansharamani.**

MOUNTBATTEN LINK

"It is really surprising to see our Prime Minister and his colleagues rushing about denouncing the U.S.A. and not saying even a word against the United Kingdom. We do have some points of difference with the American Government but then there is practically no justification for us to nurse

At the first turning in romance, we find them this wav — near yet so far. They travel parallel for a while and then they clash into each other suddenly. That is love according to motion picture producers. Meet Vyjayantimala and Kishore Kumar making a crazy love team in "New Delhi", a fast and furious entertainer.

a soft corner for U.K. which is responsible for all our present day ills and poverty.

"Let me quote here some figures published by our External Affairs Ministry. It is said that out of the total foreign aid of about Rs. 300 crores received by us so far, while the U.S.A. has contributed Rs. 238 crores the contribution of the U.K. is barely Rs. 50 lakhs. But then, U.K. is neither poor nor an under-developed country. On the contrary it has fattened itself on our blood for over two centuries and built the greatest empire the world has ever known. It also earns enormous profits from its business enterprises in this country and has the means to make even the Hydrogen Bomb and boasts of having the second highest standard of living in the world. And it never did support us in the matter of our foreign affairs, of course, unless and otherwise it suited its own narrow interests. Its role in the Kashmir issue is only too well known.

"Why is then our Prime Minister fascinated in keeping the so-called Commonwealth link intact, in spite of Britain's hide-and-seek policy?"

KOTHAGUDIUM. **G. Annaji Rao.**

MAHARASHTRIAN CULTURE

Mr. Morarji Desai told the Bombay Legislative Assembly that during the recent disturbances in Bombay, 27 cases of molestation of Gujerati women had come to the notice of the Government from Bombay City, the nature of the molestation broadly being, 21 cases of assault or attempt at assault accompanied in some cases with robbery, three cases of removing or attempting to remove saries, one case of use of indecent words, one case of forcibly staying with a woman and one case of extortion of money.

"It is really appalling to note, Mr. Patel, that people for provincial, communal, racial and class reasons drag in the poor women for fighting out their problems and that in a country which boasts of a rich cultural heritage. I am at a loss to understand why these Maharashtrians had to drag in the poor women bestially into the dirty arena of politics in a dirty manner, when there were scores of other ways to thrash out their problems and grievances. What type of culture is this, Mr. Patel?"

HANAMKONDA. **Kumari Vijaya.**

IGNORANT SHAKESPEARE

"This month's article "Talking Points On Tea" is another interesting feature inserted in "filmindia"—the former being "See The World Before You Leave It". Such type of informative as well as exhortative writing is welcome; and the more you add such writing to it, the better service it renders to us.

"As regards the use of tea as a drink I like to add one more point to this article. Tea as a drink was first advertised in England in 1657 A.D. by Mr. Thomas Garraway of London. Though the first Englishman, the agent of the East India Company in Japan drank a cup of tea as early as 1615, still it was quite unknown in England and even Shakespeare knew nothing of it."

CALCUTTA. **Dulal Das.**

THE NATIONAL SARI

"In his "New Cultural Debauchery" in the April issue, Judas has voiced the feelings of many decent-minded Indians, men and women, whose modesty has been outraged by the nauseating and unaesthetic exhibition of their bodies by ladies in the upper strata of society in our cities.

"The sari is the most graceful of garments and the most perfect symbol of femininity. This most delicate and delicious article of dress, a supreme product of Indian culture, enhances a woman's charm, both spiritual and physical, and hides in its undulated folds many a defect and angularity in her person. It is a protector of her virtue and the sheet-anchor of her modesty. It is in the sari, whether in resplendent colour or in ascetic white, that we Indians have worshipped woman, the mother, and visualised our goddesses including the deities presiding over our Raginis in music. The only disadvantage with this elegant and incomparable apparel is that it catches fire quickly and easily. But that does not seem to be the reason why it has been discarded by some of our ladies in high society who rarely, if ever, work in the kitchen.

"In donning disgustingly ugly costumes like bloomers, bikinis, slacks and jeans, which are grossly unsuited to them even physically, they have betrayed a deplorable tendency to ape and have imported the less desirable aspects of our growing internationalism, which has proved detrimental to our country in more disastrous ways. The spread of this vulgar cult in the name of fashion by our magazines and films is particularly distressing and, as Judas has suggested, a vigorous campaign should be conducted to combat it.

"I appeal to my sisters and mothers to spare us the ugly sight and not to debase themselves in this manner, remembering that they have to live up to the great and ancient Indian ideal of sacred womanhood. I implore them to stick to the sari, which has served them well and faithfully through the ages, preserving the dignity and outward sanctity, if not always the inward purity, of their persons."

BOMBAY. **B. Subba Rao.**

YET NOT OBSCENE

"Posters of most Hollywood films display vulgar taste. The chief aim of these posters seems to allure filmgoers by exhibiting Eve in her most seductive form. Most posters show 'glamour' girls in bathing suits and bikinis which are superfluously sexy. Much emphasis is laid on bare legs and half-covered busts to rekindle the wild imagination of our youngsters. Pic-

tures printed on these posters are often taken from the most sex-ridden part in the whole film.

"Indeed, it is a pity that in spite of all their tall talk on morality our puritans do not seem to object to these Hollywood posters which tend to corrupt the public morals."

BANGALORE. **J. B. William.**

POLICE JOB FOR PANT

"Have you heard of the latest philanthropes—the money circulating agencies, who are out to make fortunes for many under the "rosy shade" of their schemes?

"Ours is a land of money-maniacs who want to win mammon overnight, be it through a lottery ticket, race horse, cross-word puzzle, the toss of a coin or even a bet on doubtful weather.

"Now realizing the greed of the people these money circulating agencies have introduced rosy schemes involving a nominal initial investment of Rs. 7|- and promising a rich harvest of Rs. 22,143|- in the end. Many people are easily taken in, little knowing that this mathematical hypothesis is only wishful and assumed, for, the cycle of money orders will not move on interminably.

"The policy of these agencies is, obviously to rob Peter and pay Paul but the irony is that though many Peters are robbed few Pauls are paid; the pleasure of the profits being always of the agencies themselves."

NEW DELHI. **B. M. Malhotra.**

MINISTRY, ANOTHER PHENOMENON

"The recent declaration of the election results to the Aligarh University Executive Council surprised us very much. In spite of the fact that India is a secular state, it seems that the Aligarh University is still conducted on the same old lines. All the five members elected to the Council are Muslims with the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of the same religion. While in the other Universities. Governors or Rajpramukhs are Chancellors, in the Aligarh University we find the post of Chancellor occupied by a Muslim. Will the Education Ministry care to explain this phenomenon?"

AJMER. **S. S. Gupta.**

CALLING JAGJIVAN RAM

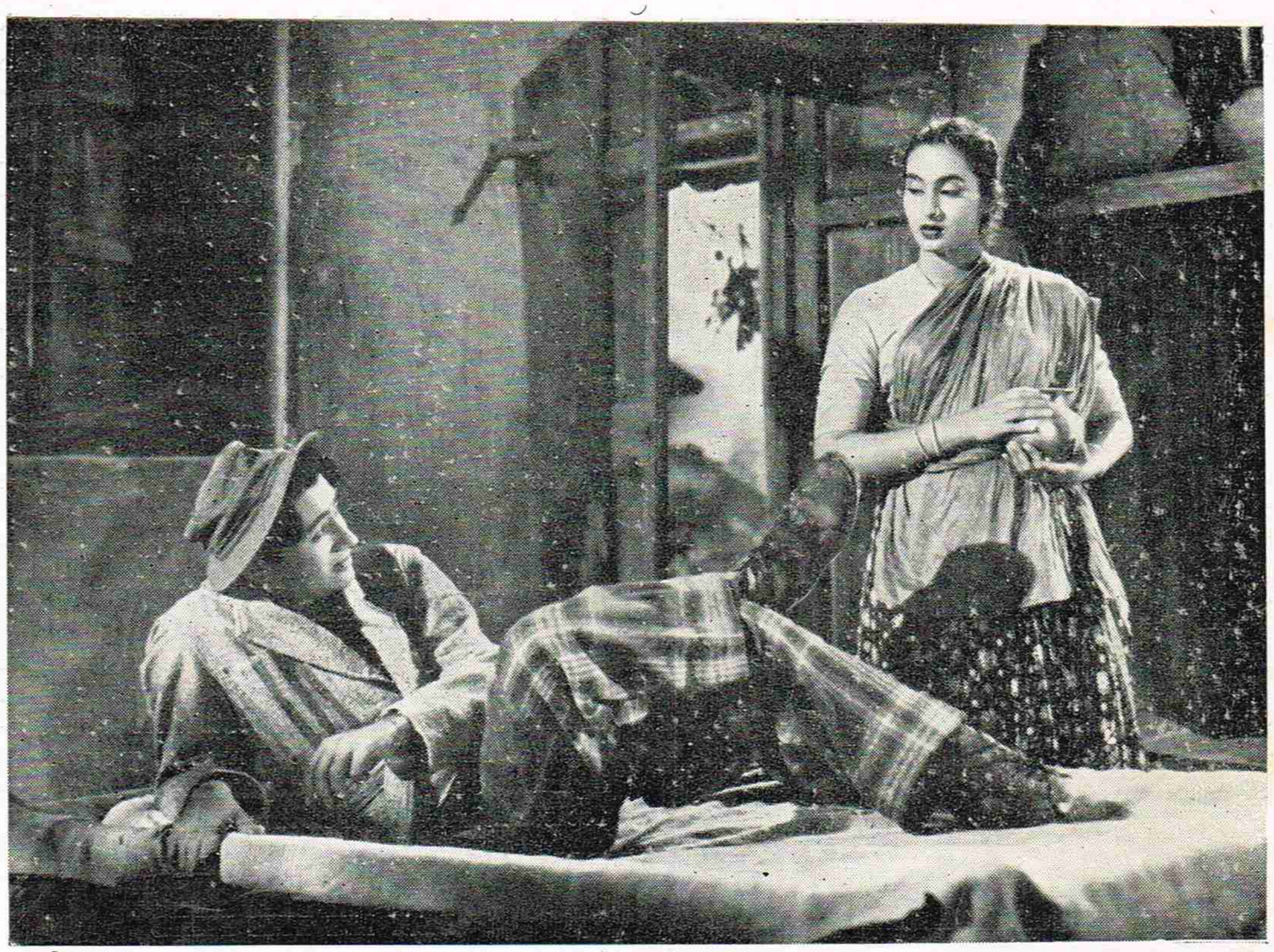
"Your article, "An Immoral Levy", in the April issue of "filmindia" rightly brings out the irregularities of the postal department. Let me tell you my woes as the Secretary of the Krishna Library.

"The United States Information Service of Bombay and Delhi had been posting their periodicals, books etc. regularly but not even a single book had been delivered to the Library. I would have not known this had not the U.S.I.S. sent a letter asking me why I had not acknowledged the receipt of these books and periodicals, mentioning the books they had sent and the dates on which they had posted them.

"On which I lodged a complaint with the Postmaster, and it was found that the postman had been giving all these books, periodicals, etc. to a different person and mind you all these were registered and in one case as much as Rs. 5|- in stamps were affixed.

"I hope your article would wake up the postal department to their irregularities and to the woes and grievances of the people and take effective steps so that the postmen may deliver the articles with a high sense of honesty and discipline."

HANAMKONDA. **Kumari Vijaya.**



That is a nice way of receiving a beautiful young maiden. Somehow tramps seem to know the right methods of dealing with women. They don't lift themselves like society sissies every time a woman gets up to let some air into her skirt. Watch Dev Anand and Nutan bringing new love to the screen in "Baarish", a social theme.

LOSE 15 LAKHS

"When you do something good or great, people hasten to own you. It is then found out that you are somebody's personal friend, even somebody's relative. If on the other hand you do something just the opposite people hasten, with equal or greater speed, to disown you. From an actually close friend you degenerate into a "mere acquaintance". And if you are a blood relation, blood becomes thinner than water.

"Once upon a time when Subhas Chandra Bose was not Netaji but Congress President he was thrown out of the Congress because he had the unusual courage of standing up to Gandhiji and sticking to his opinions. Years rolled by and Bose became Netaji. And what happened? Pandit Nehru himself took up his cry 'Jai Hind' and donned the legal mantle to defend I.N.A. heroes. Outlawed Bose had now become Congressmen's 'Our Netaji'.

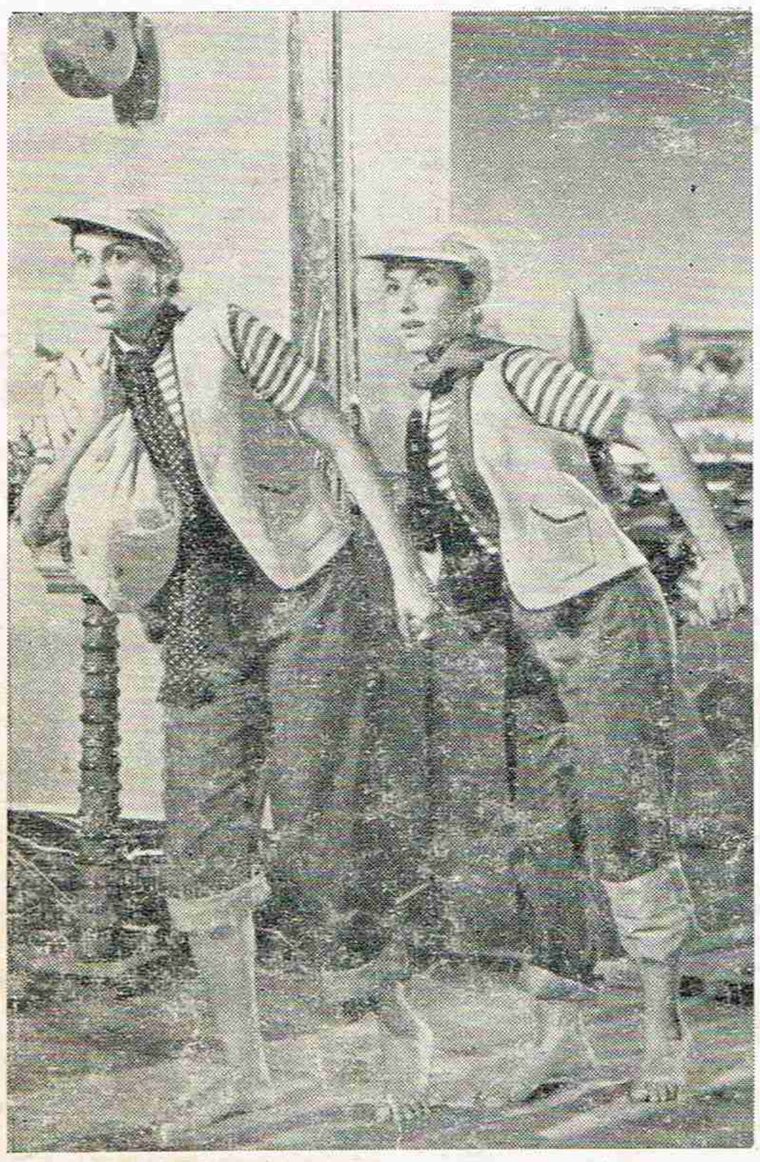
"History has repeated itself. A certain Vindhya Pradesh M.L.A., who is also the managing director of an insurance company, is absconding with securities worth fifteen lakhs of rupees. Now to what party does he belong? In a verbal duel in the Rajya Sabha, Minister Shah said he belonged to the P.S.P. A P.S.P. member vociferously protested and said, "No, no. He has now joined the Congress."

"One smiles. I am sure that if the missing M.L.A. were to turn up with the securities intact and explain that he was just wandering about because of loss of memory both the Congress and the P.S.P. fellows would hurry to claim him. Then what would the poor M.L.A. do?"

BOMBAY. **Hariram G. Jugat.**

MURDER IN POST

"It has become a vogue with our Government to celebrate Railway Week, Police Week, Corporation Week, Customs Week and so on in order to impress the public with meritorious services of these departments. And the day is not so far that our ministers will also join hands to inaugurate Morarji Week, Kamraj Week, etc. in commemoration of their "able" administration. And after some time the Insurance



Sita and Savitri—1956 models! What a costume our women are wearing these days—a costume that raises a question about their very sex. We'll, however, swear, as if in a court of law, and state that these two were women called Shashikala and Asha Mathur when we last met them. We don't know whether a sex transformation has taken place since but this can be found out by seeing "Aakhri Kadam", a thrilling entertainer.

Week too will take place. Thus our Congressmen will have doubled the weeks of the year and even surpassed the scientists in calculating the revolution of the earth.

"Our postal department is not an exception to this. I have read Judas' "An Immoral Levy" and his views coincided with mine. I used to curse the postal department for its ridiculous rules and peculiar procedures. When I was working in the South, I subscribed to the Illustrated Weekly of India, Bombay, for a year. The first four issues were received regularly. But to my surprise the next two issues remained undelivered. So I wrote to the publishers and they stated copies were dispatched under strict supervision. Then I lodged a complaint with the local postal authorities. I was informed that there were no records maintained for unregistered articles and they were not responsible for the loss. Instead of wasting time and money in approaching higher postal authorities, I purchased those missing issues from the local bookseller.

"The other day a registered parcel was sent by me to a friend in the South which contained some toys and gifts for children. I saw the parcel stamped in my presence and thrown to the ground from the counter with such a force and carelessness that the contents could have been damaged in spite of its strong packing. This was the behaviour of an educated clerk. I cannot imagine what the uneducated ones might be doing. Such is our postal administration despite the brag of Kidwais and Jagjivan Rams.

"Next comes the certificate of posting. It has six conditions printed on the form. Items No. 3 and 4 run as follows:

"Any postal articles in respect of which this certificate is issued are not registered, and will not be checked in the post and will be treated as if they had been posted in a letter-box."

"In the event of loss, damage or delay, this certificate will confer no title to compensation.

"So the spending of two pies over this has got no use or purpose. What is then meant by the words, "Certificate of Posting"? There are so many grievances against our postal department that one feels ashamed of reciting them."

BOMBAY. **M. Annamalai.**

PAY ME THE FEES

"As an ardent and devoted reader of "filmindia" let me hasten to express my deep sense of gratitude to you as the brilliant maker of "filmindia" which not only provides the reader a sumptuous and delicious food for thought making him beam with pleasure, but also helps to foster good relations of sincere friendship among its readers.

"Filmindia" was instrumental in bringing a close association between me and a local doctor, an elderly gentleman of sympathetic understanding and good humour. Since he showed an intense desire to read "filmindia", I offered him my copy for a go-through believing in the good old maxim, "Pleasure shared is pleasure doubled". And lo! Since then the doctor became more friendly and kind and whenever he has to attend on the ailments of my mother or other family members, which are more frequent seeing an obliging doctor, he refuses to accept visiting fees. When persistent attempts were made by me to pay him, he says, "We are friends and let us live up to that." All this, I owe it to you, for your untiring efforts and zeal in bringing out a worthy "filmindia" focussing on all aspects of human life, culture, art, literature and politics. May God help you with sound health and prosperity to carry your noble mission wider and longer!"

BHOJUDIH. **P.V.R. Syamala Rao.**

PATHER PANCHALI

"Your review of "Pather Panchali" published in the April issue of "filmindia", deserves the best and heartiest congratulations from every filmgoer although its publication is too late. But the old maxim stands good: better late than never. Your sympathetic approach and your ardent and artistic sense of understanding in criticizing this celluloid masterpiece once more remind us that "filmindia" is impartial and free and frank in exposition. And, that "filmindia" sells no cheap sensationalism is once again displayed by your sincere and scrupulous review written in an extremely vigorous vein. This is just posing a challenge to all who claim to have served the industry as well as the field of film journalism.

" 'Pather Panchali' is a rare event in the history of film production—as rare as your precious reviews are common in "filmindia". Long live "filmindia"!"

CALCUTTA. **Dulal Das.**

HUNGRY GHOSTS

"Going through the classified advertisement column of a daily newspaper, I came across the following advertisement: 'Short stories, features written in your name for press for a consideration. Details from Box No....etc.!' It explains the sad state of our free lance journalists. This is how one man enjoys the fruits of another man's labour.

"Not only does he get his name in print as the author of the article but also showers of praise from his admirers. The real author of the article however prefers to remain in darkness. His main concern seems to be the pinch of his poverty. What a pity?"

BANGALORE. **J. B. William.**

Flirting with a certain amount of mental reserve! Shakila is good at this game in "Rupkumari", a romantic adventure.

Printed by Yusufali Nensey at the Onlooker Press, Sassoon Dock, Colaba, Bombay 5, and published by him for Sumati Publications Private Ltd., from 55, Sir Phirozeshah Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay.

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CHALTI KA NAAM GAADI

It will come to you like a gust of FRESH BREEZE

CO-STARRING: VEENA, K. N. SINGH, SAJJAN, SAHIRA, HELEN, CUCKOO, KAMAL (Guest Artiste), S. N. BANNERJEE, MOHAN CHOTI

Story: SUHRID KAR
Lyrics: MAJROOH
Dialogue: RAMESH PANT
Photography: A. DASGUPTA
Additional Dialogue: GOVIND MUNISH
Art: BIREN NAUG

Directed by:
SATYEN BOSE

Music:
S. D. BURMAN

Produced by:
ANOOP SHARMA